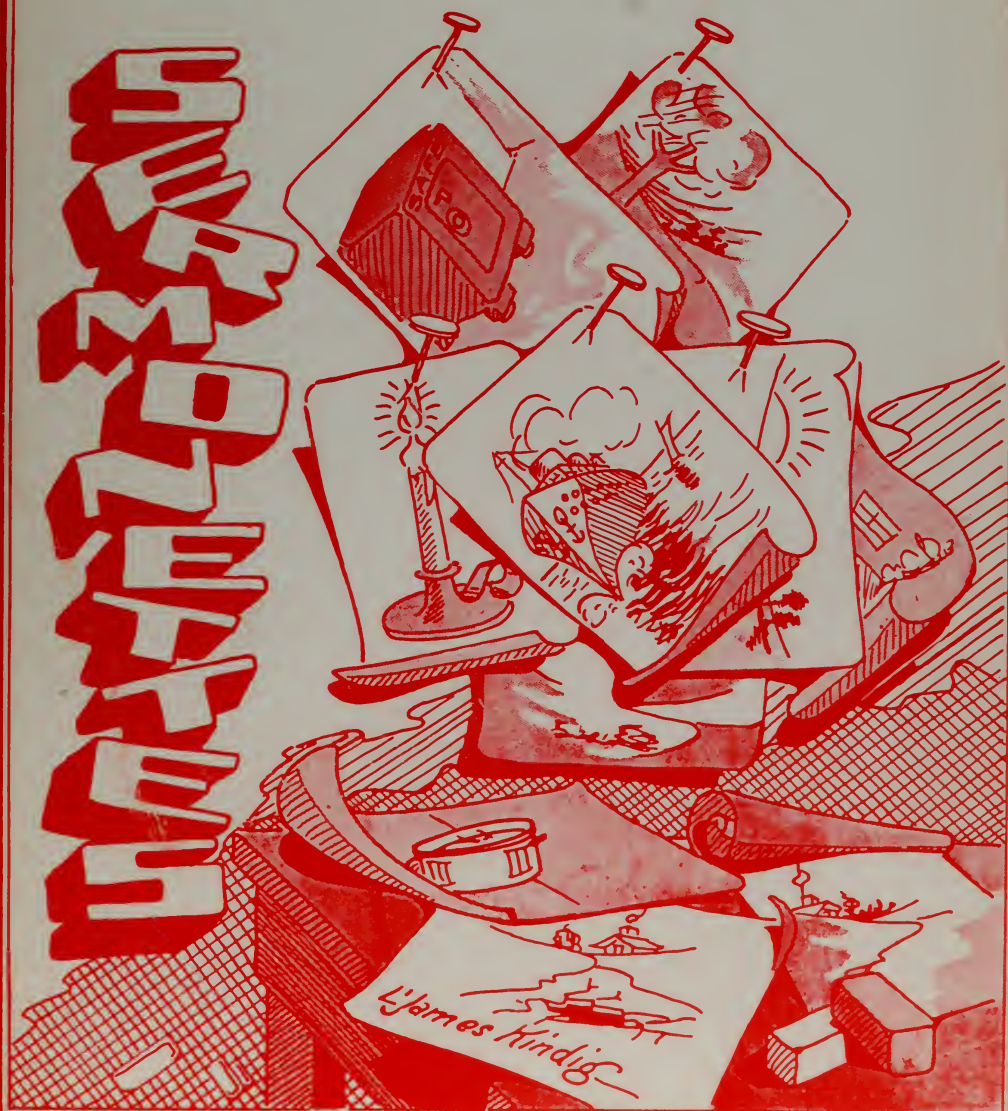


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CHALK-TALK

CHALK-TALK



CHALK TALK SERMONETTES

By L. James Kindig

MEIGS PUBLISHING COMPANY
INDIANAPOLIS

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Preface

Chalk-talking is increasing in popularity among Christian workers. The busy pastor, the evangelist, the Sunday School teacher and superintendent and others are always looking for a few more suggestive helps to make their work with boys and girls more interesting. The author is offering Chalk-Talk Sermonettes as a selection of simple gospel sermons. Deepest truths of the gospel can be clarified and impressed upon the hearts through the eyes and ears of the listeners.

Short sentences and simple words are necessary for conveying gospel messages to children. Conversational tone and style of talk is most winning and the art of asking questions at random will always keep their interest awakened.

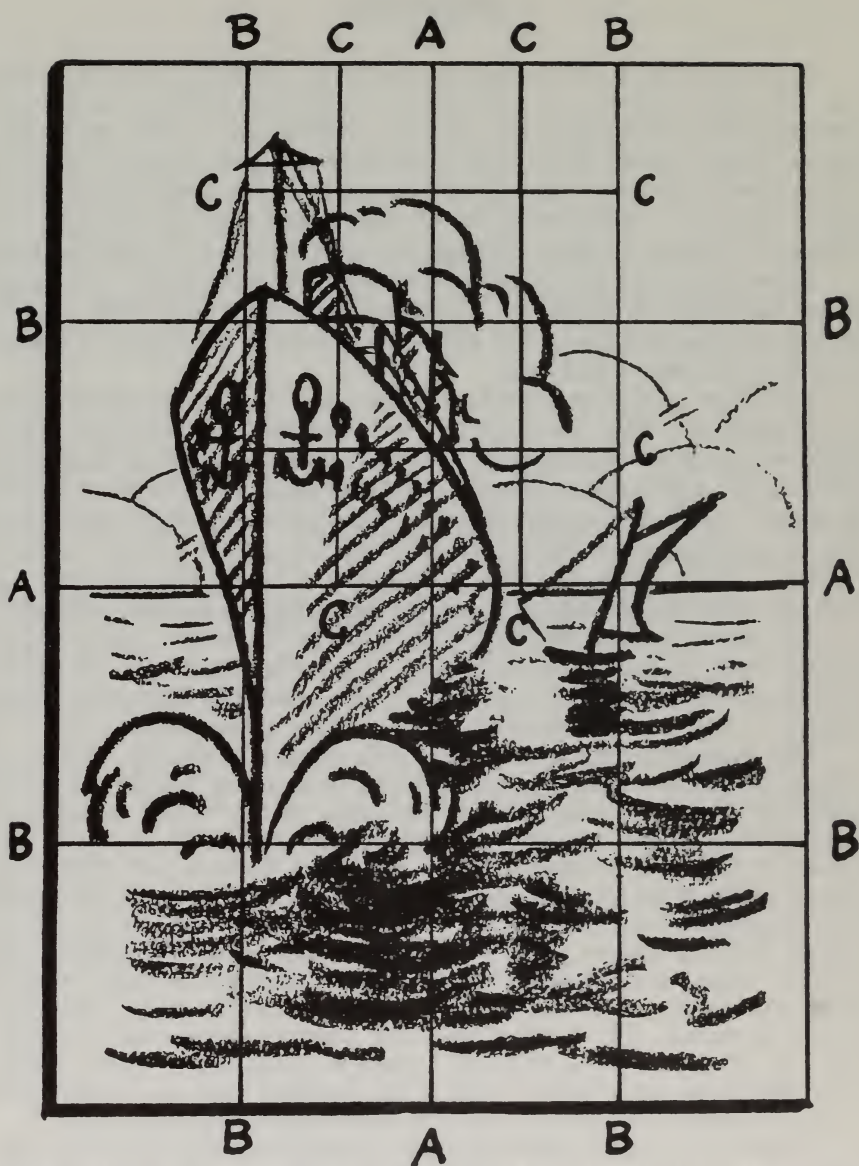
Use plain, sweeping lines and make every line count as the drawing progresses. The listeners are watchers as the drawing grows. Don't worry about too much patter, you'll hear enough of that whispered in the eager-eyed audience. Let them guess what is being drawn. Be sure to stand to one side as you draw and occasionally step away as if to scrutinize the picture, thus giving all a "good look" once in a while. With some lessons, the sermon might progress with the drawing; with others, the sermon will start after the picture is finished.

The drawing may be practiced with pencil and a small paper. Practice over and over, then try it on the chalk-talk board. If necessary, have it drawn lightly with pencil, then trace the lines before your audience. Light pencil lines can be seen only a few feet away.

The accompanying illustration will explain a simple method of scaling the picture as it is in the book so as to easily transfer it to the chalk-talk board. First, make a rectangle on the board as large as possible and of the same proportion as the rectangle in which the picture in the book is drawn. Now with two lines as AA divide the picture in the book into four parts. Next with four lines as BB divide these four parts into four parts. You will notice by this that you have nearby lines to follow, and work across and from, throughout the picture. Place the principal lines of your drawing in their relative places on the board after you have scaled it off exactly as the book picture is scaled. For finer details, the nearby sections may be quartered, as with lines CC. This will seldom be necessary. These scaling lines should be very light. This is the method used by artists who transfer pictures from small copies to large signboards and walls.

Chalk-Talk crayon comes in sticks 1 inch square by 3 inches long. Eight assorted colors in a box. Price \$1.20 per box. Order of publishers of this book. Plain newspaper stock is very satisfactory and also inexpensive for Chalk-Talking. About 24" x 36" is a fair size and proportion. Pin several sheets to your easel or a blackboard; this will assure you of a soft, smooth background.

Do not let the embarrassment of the first attempt discourage you. A few attempts will assure you that with but little talent and not a little practice you may become a proficient Chalk-Talk artist.



Finally, do not neglect to pray earnestly for God's rich blessing and wise leadership as you deliver your Chalk-Talk Sermonette.

L. James Kindig

Contents

Chapter	Page
Preface	3
I Light	6
II The Clock	8
III The Two Boats	10
IV The Whipping Post	12
V The Window of Prayer	16
VI The Peanut	18
VII The Magnet	20
VIII The Eagle	22
IX The Ice	24
X The Torch	26
XI Rest	28
XII The Train	30
XIII Barnacles	32
XIV The Two Roads	34
XV The Cross and the Crown	36
XVI The Barren Tree	38
XVII The Safe	40
XVIII What to Believe	42
XIX Character Building	46
XX The Airplane	50
XXI Your Worst Enemy	52
XXII The Love Gate	54
XXIII Cain and Abel	56
XXIV Repentance	58
XXV A Great Salvation	60
XXVI The New Boy	62



CHAPTER I

Light

John 8:12 *I am the light of the world.*

Matt. 5:14 *Ye are the light of the world.*

Not long ago, candles were the most common means of lighting. Electric and gas lights were unheard of. The candles were made of tallow and other kinds of fat and a wick cast in the center.

Some have called candles lights. But they are not. They are a means of light. A box of candles in a dark room would not give any light unless they were lighted. Candles have no light in themselves, but must come in contact with another light.

We all can say we are candles, but we are not all lights. Jesus is the light of the world, He said. But He went to heaven and is with the Father. As we read our Bibles and pray and surrender to Him, we are brought in contact with Him and we become ignited with His light, love and wisdom. When we are lighted, we become the light of the world and Jesus is the light of the world through us. To the extent that we are aglow, Jesus is the light of the world and to the extent that we are only flickering and smoldering, Jesus is disappointed and the world is darkened.

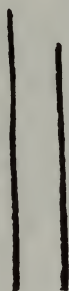
The candle is consumed as it glows; and as we shine for Jesus, our selfishness and worldliness is consumed.

Others will come in contact with us and our lights will be transferred to them. Some people never think of Jesus, but as they see us burning for Him, they are reminded of Him and shown the way to Him.

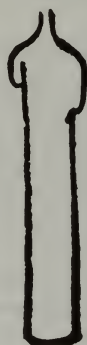
In a small country church years ago they had no lamps. Everyone brought candles. When the first one entered and placed his candle on the window or shelf, there wasn't much light, but when they all had arrived, the candles lined the room and every part of the room was light. Some people were selfish and didn't bring a candle but enjoyed the meeting by the others' lights. If all had been selfish, there would have been no light at all.

Are you a candle only, or a light?

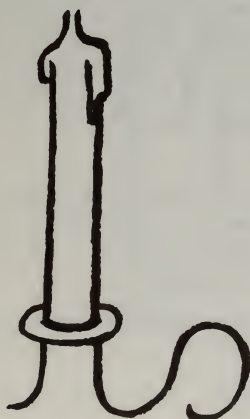
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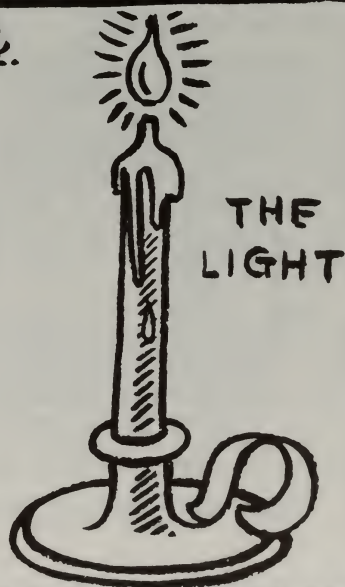
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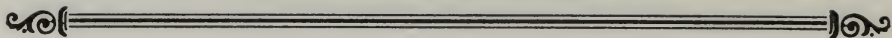


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CHAPTER II

The Clock

Prov. 23:26 *My Son, give me thine heart.*

Let's get a lesson from a story about a clock. A poor ignorant man from way back in the mountains was the proud owner of a clock that was left to him by a relative. All he knew about it was that if it were kept wound it would tell time and he delighted in telling the time of day. One day it stopped and to his dismay, winding it would do no good. Friends told him of a jeweler in a nearby town who could fix it, so he drove to town, and handed the jeweler two steel hands and asked that they be fixed. Seeing nothing wrong with them, the jeweler asked why they needed to be repaired. The owner of the clock replied that they wouldn't run. The jeweler told him that if he had the clock he could repair it, but the ignorant owner refused, saying that the clock was all right but that the hands refused to run. After some explanation and persuasion the owner went back and returned with the whole clock.

The poor man didn't realize that the mainspring was broken and a new one was needed.

We offer God our hands and say we shall serve Him, but He wants our hearts that He may give us new ones—hearts that beat for Him and that know Him. If our hearts are wrong, our hands will do wrong. When you see a boy steal or fight you can decide that his heart is wrong. That is also true of our lips, our eyes, our ears, and all other parts of our bodies; if we say evil words, look for evil pictures, and listen for bad stories and bad words, think evil thoughts, we can decide that we need a new heart.

Saul, with his old heart cursed and persecuted Jesus' followers, but with his new heart we hear him say: "Old things have passed away, behold all things are become new" and we see him loving Jesus' followers and enduring persecution with them.

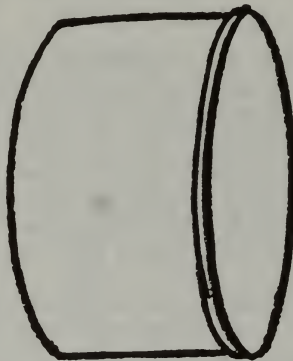
Whenever I see a clock I think of a verse of the Bible that says: "Now is the accepted time, behold, now is the day of salvation."

If our hearts haven't been surrendered to Jesus, let's do it now.

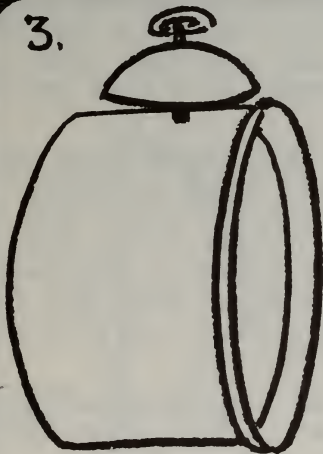
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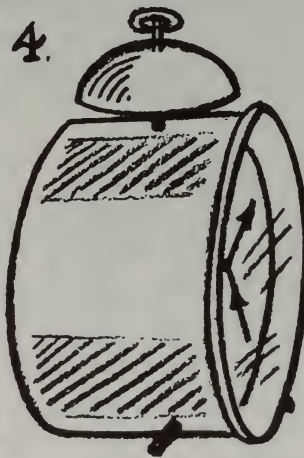
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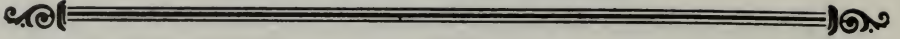
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THE
CLOCK



CHAPTER III

The Two Boats

Hebrews 10: 25 *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together.*

When the church of Christ was a babe, they had no denominations and often no church buildings. The believers didn't know about church management and organization and they often became hungry for fellowship. Paul and the other church leaders showed them how they could meet together and hold a service of prayer and fellowship. This became a regular occasion with them every week or few days. They realized that they were weak individually in their pagan cities and towns and could only find strength in uniting for worship.

Evidently in one community a number of believers neglected their regular gatherings and wondered why they became weak and discouraged. So the writer of Hebrews reminded them that they "for-sake not the assembling of themselves together."

The church to which you belong is only an assembly of believers that built a building for worship. If they had not assembled and organized, they would have had no building. They organized so that they could call and support a minister. If they had not organized, there would have been no preacher. They organized so they could have fellowship and instruction. Also that they might be stronger individually and collectively and fight against sin in their own lives and community.

A certain person said: "I can be a Christian and never join or attend church." That person was not only selfish, but unwise. He would never have heard of Jesus if the church hadn't called and paid a preacher to deliver the gospel. He may not be biting the hand that fed him, but he shunned and slighted it and showed a thankless spirit. He was unwise because he no doubt soon found himself weak and overcome by the world with no one to help and instruct him as he refused the help of the church.

A man not long ago built a small sail boat and actually sailed around the world in it all alone. He was an unusual sailor. It took him over a year.

We are not all unusually strong and wise so we prefer to take a large ocean liner managed by experienced sailors and commanded by a proficient captain. So we'll join the church and receive the help of our pastor-captain and other officers of the church.



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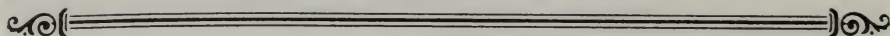


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CHAPTER IV

The Whipping Post

John 19:1 Then Pilate therefore took Jesus and scourged (whipped) Him.

How many of my listeners have received a whipping? Of all humiliating and painful ordeals, that experience seems the worst. We can stand pain from an accident, but when a whipping is administered, our whole being crouches at even the thought of it. But few of us have received more whippings than we have deserved. Have you ever been thrashed for an act that you were not guilty of? That is more painful than ever because the unfairness of it all seems to cut deeply and reaches to the heart. One time a young man was sentenced for several years in the penitentiary for stealing and after a few months he was found to be innocent. Can you imagine the deep, cutting pain of an undeserved punishment?

In olden times a cruel means of punishment was used. The guilty person was tied with his arms around a post like we have drawn. Tightly bound, he was unable to flinch. When led to the post, he knew that he was going to receive a whipping.

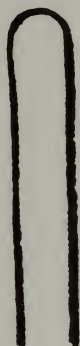
Now we have drawn the whip. Fastened to a handle were several stout cords of rawhide. Little sharp pieces of steel were clinched into the cords at intervals. If a man were caught whipping a horse or mule with one of these, he would be arrested. Yet this is what went with the whipping post.

The victim who is to be punished has the clothing stripped from his back and a strong, hard-hearted man whirls the whip and brings the cruel lashes with all his might against the bare back. The steel pieces cut into the flesh and the cords raise black swollen ridges across the skin. When the blood flows from the poor victim's back, the man with the whip is untouched with pity. Another swing is taken and a third and fourth until the desired punishment is administered. When the victim is loosed from the whipping post, he generally falls to the ground in a swoon. He awakes to find himself lying on a hard prison cot with no one to sympathize with him.

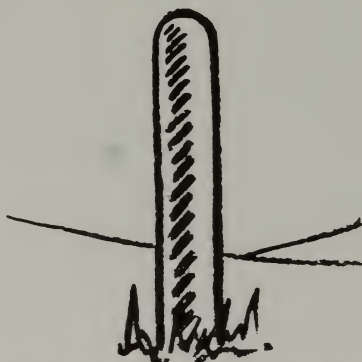
We read that "Pilate therefore took Jesus and scourged him." Jesus actually went through this terrible punishment before He was crucified.

One night a man who had been reading of Jesus' sufferings, dreamed that he saw his Saviour tied to the post and prepared for a whipping. He was in the crowd that witnessed Jesus' trial. The soldiers took Jesus' robe from Him and bared His back. Jesus never murmured and as He stood bound to the post a fiery-eyed Roman soldier took the whip and flung it with all his might across the Lord's back. The man in his dream saw the soldier raise his arm to strike again and with a heart full of pity ran to the soldier, grabbed the arm holding the whip and demanded that he strike no more. The soldier turned his head and the dreamer beheld his own face. He awakened

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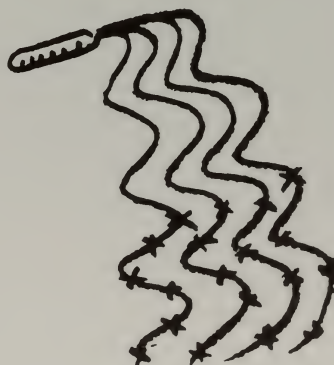


THE WHIPPING POST

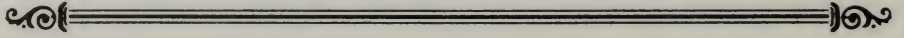
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THE WHIP



suddenly to realize that his own sin was the whip and that he was whipping the Christ.

We read that "He bare our sins in His own body." Let's not whip Jesus any more. Let's love Him, ask His pardon and live lives that will bring joy to His heart rather than lashes to His back.

Note—You may divide your board and draw two pictures on the same sheet for this lesson.





CHAPTER V

The Window of Prayer

Daniel 6:10 And his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed . . .

Did you ever think of prayer as a window? Daniel opened his window toward Jerusalem and prayed three times every day, even though he was in a strange land.

Wouldn't you like to step into Daniel's room and look around at its furnishings? Wouldn't his room be dark if it weren't for those windows? Wouldn't it be close and stuffy if he hadn't opened the windows to let the fresh air sweep in and purify his chamber?

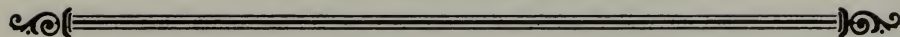
I know some people who live in dark rooms. How do they stand it? The only light they have is from artificial fixtures. Somehow they get by, but we like the sunlight.

Think of the darkened souls who have no windows of prayer. Never kneel and let the light of heaven shine upon them. All the joy and light they have is from the "pleasures of sin for a season." They think they have the true light, but how can they know the difference if they have never let the true light shine into their hearts? Do you have a window of prayer in your heart?

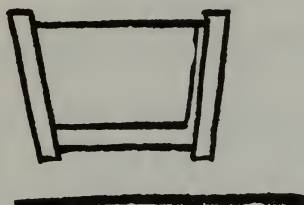
Some people have a window of prayer and the light shines in to brighten them. But we read that Daniel opened the window. The fresh air came sweeping in. Many talk to God but never let Him talk to them. When we open our hearts as we pray, his voice comes to us as silver zephyrs sweeping over our souls. Did you ever hear God's voice and feel His presence? Just kneel and open your heart and tarry silently for ten, fifteen, thirty minutes. His precious nearness will speak to you and you will be sweetly refreshed. Have you learned to tarry with your heart open until He blesses you?

Moses went up the mountain and heard God's voice. He was so near to God that His brightness was transferred to Moses' face. When he came down from the mount, the people marvelled at his bright, glowing face.

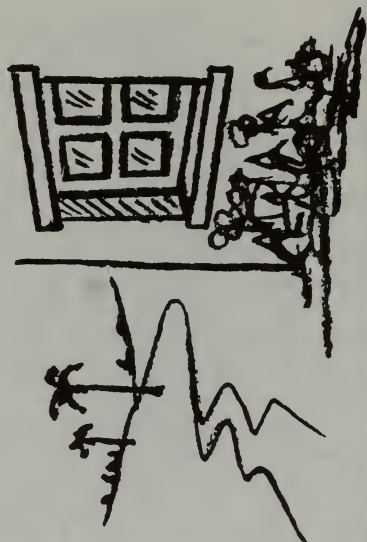
We may tarry with the Lord and so absorb His glory that others will see God in our happy faces and in our joyful lives. Do people see God in your faces?



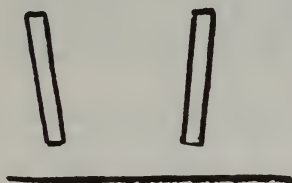
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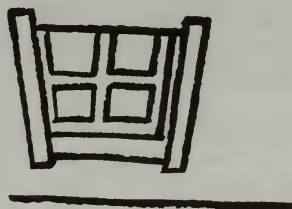
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CHAPTER VI

The Peanut

Mark 8:36 *For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?*

Who doesn't like peanuts? You see this peanut I have drawn, don't you? No, you do not; you only see the —; tell me what? Yes; the shell.

Let me ask you: Was the peanut made for the shell or the shell for the peanut? Yes, the shell was made for the peanut. The shell is the house that God made for the peanut to live and grow in. The shell is useless when the peanut is removed and yet the peanut is dependent on the shell that it may live in the ground.

We are all like the peanut. You cannot see me; I cannot see you. We only see the shells or houses in which we live. We can only stay in this world as long as we live in our houses of clay. But we shall not always abide in them.

Ten thousand years from now we shall all be living. Not in these houses, to be sure, for some day soon our friends and loved ones shall take our bodies and lay them away with tender hands and look at our bodies for the last time through tear-dimmed eyes. They shall do that because we shall have left our bodies and our bodies will be useless when we have left them.

But where shall we be living when our bodies shall have gone back to the earth? We can know for certain if we desire. All who give their hearts to Jesus will immediately go where Jesus is when they leave their bodies. All who refuse to give their hearts to Him and accept Him as Savior will go where Jesus is not. Wherever Jesus is, is heaven and if your heart belongs to Jesus now, it will belong to Him through all eternity. Let's make sure of the eternal destiny of our souls.

We have never seen our souls. For that reason, some unwise people have decided that they haven't any. So they go through life taking the best care of their bodies and minds without giving their souls a second thought. Poor, careless creatures and some day they will awaken to mourn their folly. What do you think of a person that feeds his stomach carefully—emphasis on the "fully," and exercises his muscles strenuously that his body might be strong—and his body will only live a few years—then forgets to feed and exercise his soul? What do you think of a girl who cleans and paints and powders her face and clothes her body with the finest togs and forgets to beautify her soul by living for Jesus and for others? Aren't some of us strange creatures after all? So Jesus tries to arouse us by asking, what we shall profit if we gain the whole world and lose our own soul.

Let's feed our souls with spiritual food by reading the Bible, attending Sunday School and church and by praying. Let's adorn our lives with the beautiful things of the Christian life and develop a worthy Christian character.

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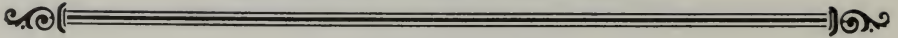
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THE PEANUT



CHAPTER VII

The Magnet

John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

This is a familiar object. It is a mysterious instrument. Within the twisted steel is a remarkable power—most remarkable because it is an unseen power. It is a force that can only be felt by a similar metal, and it is a drawing force. The magnet is made of steel and will draw only steel. It will not attract copper, brass, lead, silver or gold. It will not even attract precious stones. It also has the power to transfer its force to other pieces of steel. Rub a piece of steel on the ends of the magnet and it, too, will become magnetized.

Now I have drawn another familiar object. The cross is also a magnet. Jesus on the cross is the greatest drawing force in the world. Had Jesus died as an angel or a spirit, He could never have drawn men unto Him, so He was born into the world and became flesh like we are that he might draw us.

When we see the picture of Jesus on the cross or read of His crucifixion, we feel a tugging at our hearts. That is the drawing power of the cross. Once a young man who didn't believe in Christ, entered a large art gallery. He stopped to criticize a picture of Christ on the cross and wondered why people had any reverence for such a picture. As he stood beholding the nailprints in the Savior's hands and feet and stared at the open wound in Jesus' side, he felt a sense of pity entering his soul. He raised his eyes and was attracted by the pitiful expression in Jesus' eyes and the two beheld each other for a few moments. He turned his eyes but they flew right back and he was caught by a strange drawing power. He walked forward and found himself leaning far over the railing that was between himself and the picture—he was charmed by the Son of God on the cross. He yielded himself and accepted Christ as his Savior.

Maybe some of you are saying that it is strange that since all men are drawn, all men do not come to Christ, but that is plain. I hold my knife in my hand. There is another unseen force called gravitation. If I should let loose of the knife, the force called gravitation would draw it to the floor. The force is working all right, but I am preventing the knife from being drawn down. Now we see that two powers are in the world. One draws upward and the other downward. One is right, the other is wrong. One is the power of Christ; the other of Satan.

The things of the world call us and draw us down and away from God. Only one way can we be kept from falling, that is by giving ourselves to Christ and letting Him hold us by His mighty power.

By living close to Jesus, we become "magnetized" and can draw others toward Christ. Let's live so close to Him that His power will be in our lives to attract lost souls to the Savior of the world.

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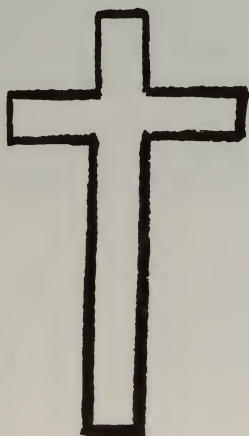


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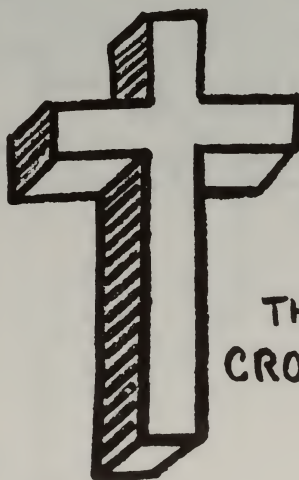


THE MAGNET

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CHAPTER VIII

The Eagle

Isa. 40:31 They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles.

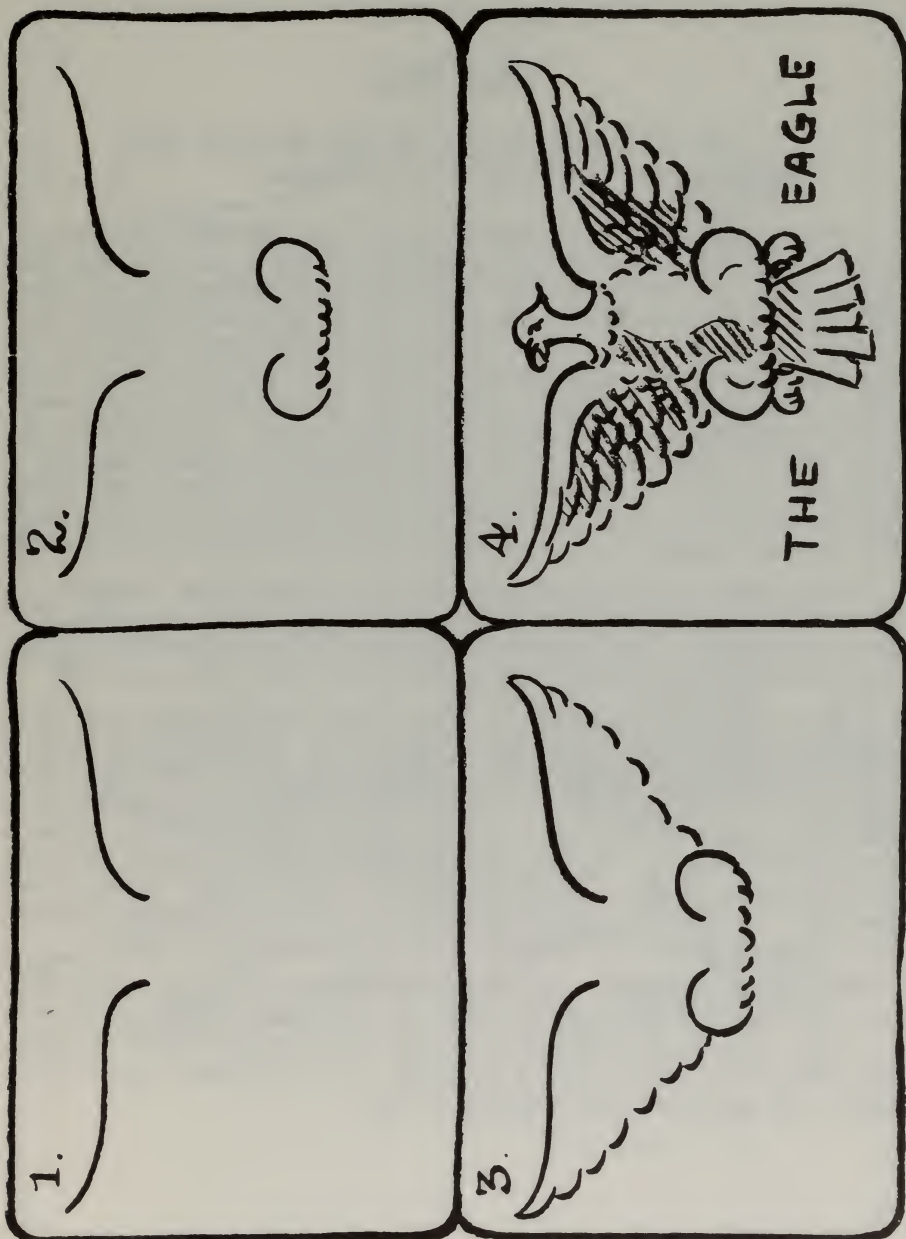
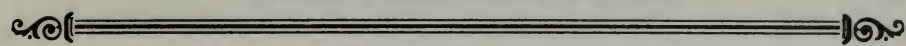
The eagle is our national bird. We see its picture on our money and on every piece of paper that requires a national emblem or seal. It is a majestic bird and its beauty and strength are admired by all lovers of birds. It builds its nest on the mountain tops among the steep cliffs where other birds and animals fear to go.

Eagles do not go in flocks. They love a solitary life and enjoy only the presence of their mates.

God's children are spoken of as eagles. There is great strength and beauty in the Christian life because the Lord gives us strength to live above the world. God wants us to mount up on wings as eagles and live a life of separation. An eagle is never seen enjoying the life of other birds. Too many eagle Christians, however, seem to enjoy doing the worldly things which are unbecoming to the lofty Christian life.

Isaiah tells us how to fly high above the worldly life and how to have new strength as eagles. His admonition is for us to wait upon the Lord. We do that by developing the prayer and Bible-reading habit—spending lots of time talking to God in prayer and listening to Him from the sacred page.

There are high cliffs of Christian experience that some of us have never reached. Let's all live majestic eagle lives of beauty and strength.



CHAPTER IX

The Ice

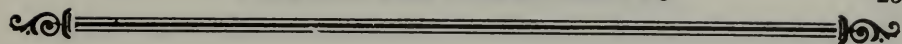
*Psa. 37:5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust
also in Him and He shall bring it to pass.*

This simple winter scene reminds us of a winter story. During the early days of the middle west, a stranger wanting to cross the Mississippi found it covered with ice. He hesitated and seeing no bridge, realized that he must cross on the ice. It was early winter and he had no idea of the thickness of the ice so he crawled out a ways on his stomach and finally found courage to crawl on his hands and knees, thus distributing his weight on the ice. He made his way nearly across, trembling and fearing every cracking sound. As he neared the other side he turned about to hear someone singing behind him and to his surprise saw a colored man singing aloud as he drove a four horse load of coal across on the ice in the same path where he had crawled. The colored man knew the ice and therefore had faith in its strength.

If we only knew Jesus better, we should have more confidence in Him. We should read the Bible more and try God's promises and prove His fidelity. The words of a familiar hymn tell us that "if our faith were but more simple, we should take Him at His word."

Some of us have trusted our souls to His keeping but have never practiced putting the little things in His hand. God is just as anxious to help us in our minor problems of life as the major ones. He wants us to be "as little children." When they need help or comfort, they immediately go to their parent and always find a welcome from a sympathetic heart. Let us practice going to our Father with our trouble and problems. We can breathe a silent prayer wherever we may be. Too often we make mistakes and carry heavy hearts because we neglect to take our Heavenly Father into our confidence.

Sometimes we trust more easily in material, earthly things than we do in God. We put more confidence in earthly friends than we do in Jesus. The earth is going to fail and our friends will soon be gone, but God never changes and never fails. Let us commit our way entirely unto the Lord and trust also in Him.



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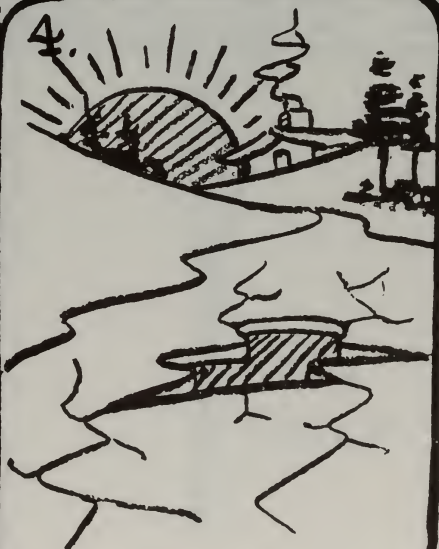
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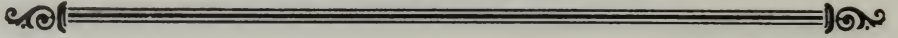


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CHAPTER X

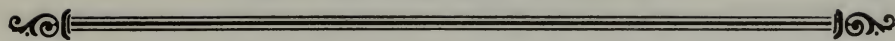
The Torch

Matt. 5:16 Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

We sometimes play a racing game at parties in which the contestants carry lighted candles as they run. This is an old game that the Greeks played in their great contests. The runners were given lighted torches. The game was not only to show speed and endurance, but steadiness and carefulness. A laurel wreath was given to the first to reach the goal with his light still burning.

Some business and professional men whom I have known have acquired great success in their endeavor but their lights were extinguished in the mad rush for the goal. They started as shining Christians and ended as careless and ungodly sinners. In all realms of life we see just such spiritual failures.

When we reach the end of the goal, Christ's inquiry will not be: "Have you acquired wealth or fame, or have you had a good time?" but: "IS YOUR LIGHT STILL BURNING?" So let us keep our eyes on our lights as well as the goal, all through life.



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THE
TORCH

CHAPTER XI

Rest

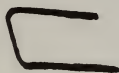
Matt. 11:29 Take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest for your souls.

This picture reminds us of a story. A number of years ago a wealthy man was stricken with cancer. The doctor told him that he could live but a few months. He reconciled himself to his fate and before he took to his bed he went to a stone cutter and ordered a beautiful stone with these words engraved on it: "At Rest." He purchased a cemetery lot and had his grave beautifully arranged with the stone in place. As he was admiring the preparation he had made, he turned to a passerby and remarked: "I shall soon be at rest under that stone," and explained about his unfortunate disease. The man listened quietly and then asked him these words: "And have you arranged for rest for your soul?" A flash of conviction pierced the wealthy man's heart as he had been a careless and worldly person. He went home filled with fear and unrest; sought a minister and was soon led to Jesus.

What we speak of as death is only the separation of our soul from our body. Our soul is the part of us that yearns for God and is only satisfied when we are near to God. If we die without God, our souls will be separated from Him eternally and rest and happiness will be forever unknown.

Dives' body was resting in a magnificent oriental tomb but his soul was tossing and aching in the lost world. He looked across the great gulf and saw Lazarus' soul resting on Abraham's bosom and cried for God to send someone to tell his worldly brothers to seek the true rest. We should surrender to Jesus and find rest, then tell others the way to find rest for their souls.

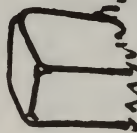
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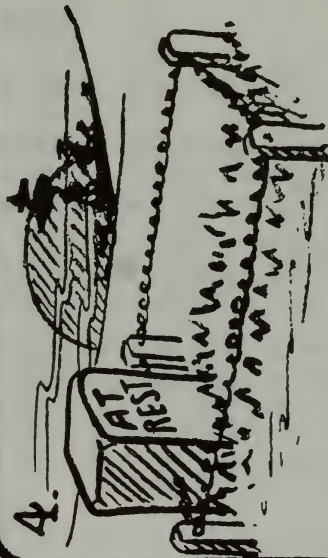


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My dear friends, I am
a man of
a man of
a man of

4.





CHAPTER XII

The Train

Eph. 5:23 Christ is the head of the church.

There is something fascinating about a train of cars. What boy hasn't asked old Santa for a train and what girl hasn't enjoyed watching him play with it on Christmas morning?

Whenever we see a train of cars moving down the track, we take it for granted that there is a powerful engine pulling it. Some modern engines will pull more than a hundred loaded cars.

I love to think of Christ as the great powerful locomotive. There is no limit to His power. He can pull any size train. We are the cars. Christ is the head of the church, we read. He is head of the great train of cars and He is taking the train to glory. Each day is a station and He picks up new followers or cars at each station. Are you all attached to the train?

One day two men boarded a coach in a station yard, sat down and went off to sleep. They expected to awake far down the line, possibly at the station where they wanted to get off. One of them awakened and looked at his watch to find that he had slept several hours. He wondered what station his train was stopping at. He raised the car window and asked a workman nearby the name of the station. To his surprise he was told that he was in the same station where he had gotten on. He left the coach and looked down the track to find that the car wasn't hooked on to anything. Can you imagine his dismay?

I know some people who think they are on their way to heaven that have never given themselves to Jesus. They will never, never reach the golden city.

Give your hearts to Jesus and join the great train of followers of the Son of God.

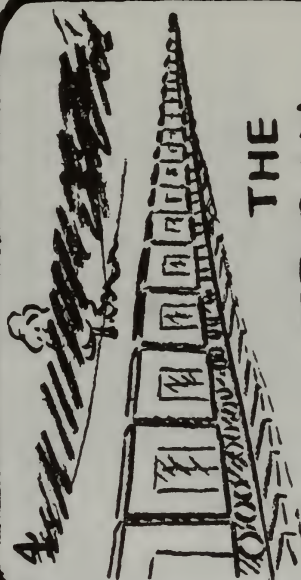
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THE
TRAIN



CHAPTER XIII

Barnacles

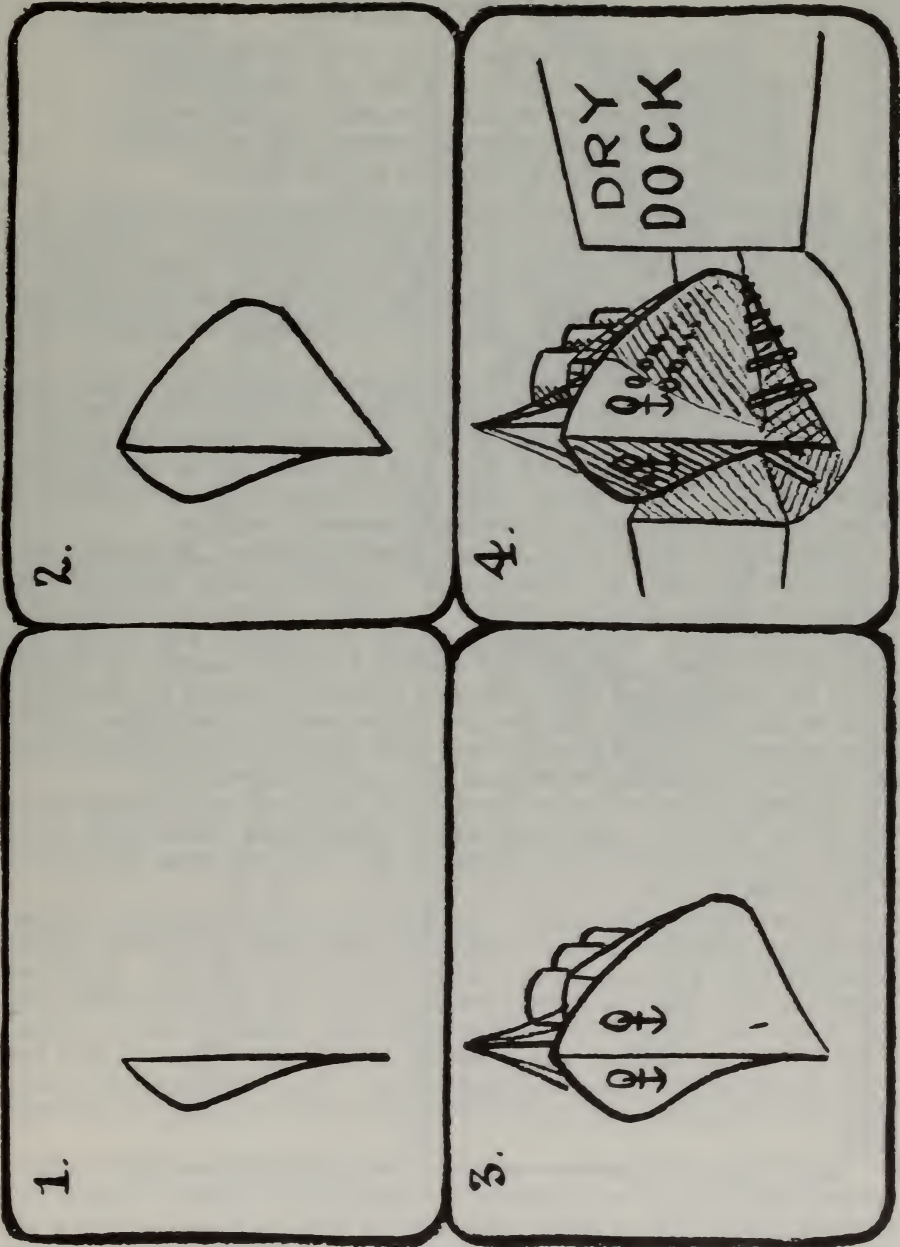
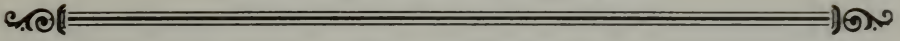
John 14:6 *I am the way, the truth and the life.
No man cometh unto the father, but by Me.*

Ships, large and small, must be taken into dry dock for repairs. Adjustments must be made and accidents create need for repairing. Sometimes the hull needs painting and the joints need calking. Often they must have the barnacles cleared off.

Barnacles are a variety of shellfish which float in the sea until they strike some floating object. They are suckers and fasten themselves to the object and make it their home. At times the ships become so covered with them below the water line that the progress of the boat is hindered. They have been known to become so thick as to sink the vessel. Scientists tell us that they fasten their heads to the vessel and kick the food into their stomachs with their legs.

Christ is sometimes called the "Ship of Zion." Some people are like barnacles and fasten themselves to Him by joining the church or professing to be Christians, and say "we are following Christ." They are like the barnacle following the ship through the ocean. They accept the benefits of the church and Christianity. But Paul says: "If any man be **in** Christ, he is a **new creature**." We must be **in** Christ, not on Christ. (In the ship, not on the ship.) When we take ourselves and surrender completely to Jesus He receives us and we are "**in** Him" as we follow Him. Let's be sure we are new creatures in Christ.

Some day the great Ship will enter port. All who are **in** Christ will be with Him through eternity. All who are only following will be cleaned off like barnacles and as they are cast away, they will hear Him say: "Depart from Me, I never knew you."



CHAPTER XIV

The Two Roads

Matt. 7:13-14 Enter ye in at the strait gate for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction and many there be which go in thereat; Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life and few there be that find it.

Have you ever lost your way? Let us suppose we all were on a large bus and had come to a "Y" or fork in the road. We couldn't go straight ahead, we should have to turn one way or the other. If we were strangers and didn't know the road, what is the first thing we should look for? Yes, a sign. And we should be greatly disappointed if there were none.

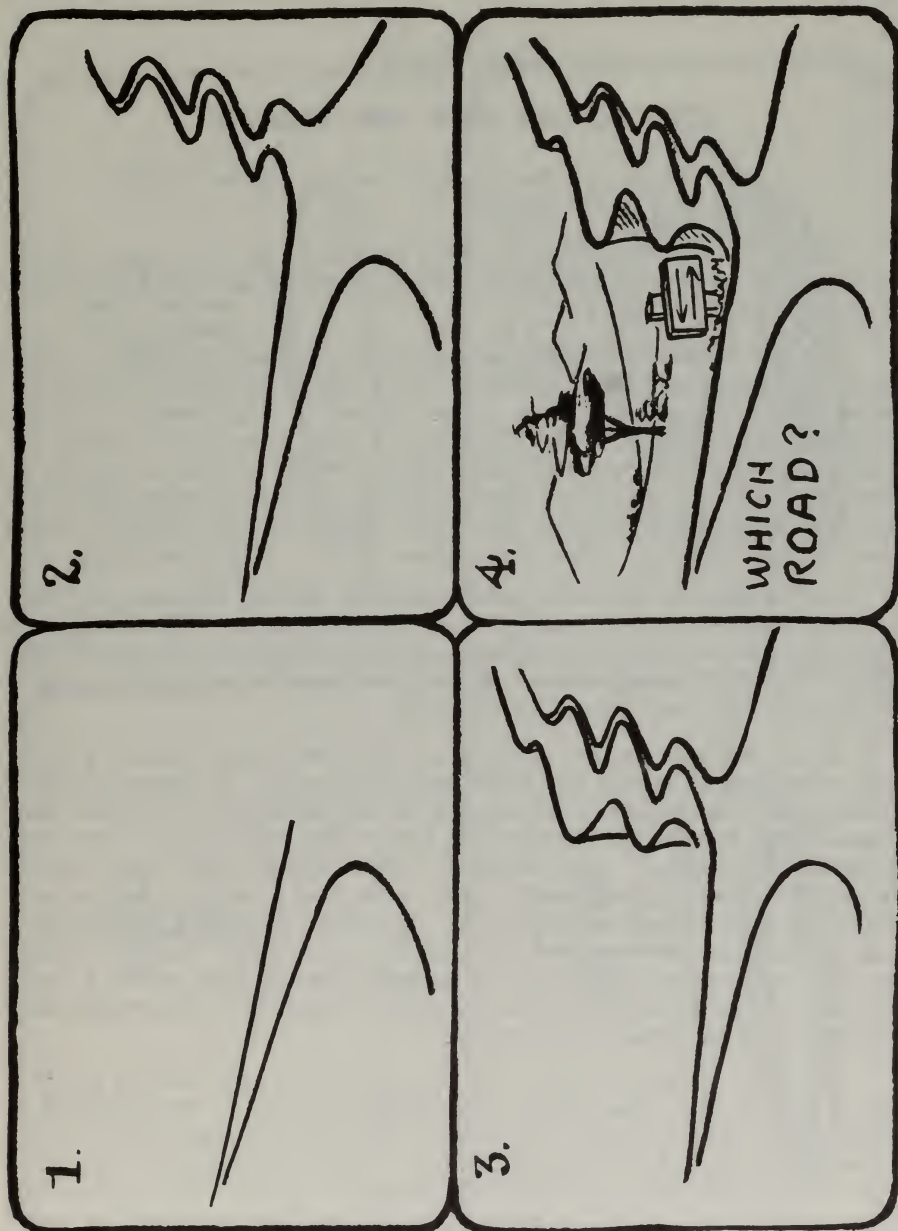
On life's highway we are today approaching a fork in the road. We all want to reach the right destination. We shouldn't guess, as it is too serious a matter to take lightly. We might be lost for eternity. We shall naturally look for a sign, and we shall not be disappointed if we look in the right place. This sign is found in Matt. 7:13-14. It is very simple and shouldn't be misunderstood by anyone.

This sign tells us three means by which we can be certain that we are on the right or wrong road. It explains that there are two gates, two roads and two groups of people. There is a wide gate, broad road and a multitudinous group of people; also there is a straight (or small) gate, narrow road and a small number of people. If we go through the wide gate and follow the crowd on the broad road, we can be certain that we are on the road to destruction. If we have entered the small gate and are with the few on the narrow road, we can be certain that we are on the road to eternal life.

Satan beckons to us at the fork of the road and advises us to follow the crowd. Jesus also stands nearby and admonishes us to follow—not the crowd, nor anybody else, but we hear his words: "Follow Me."

As we follow the crowd, we find ourselves caught in a great onrushing, pleasure-seeking, God-forgetting mass of worldly people who will carry us on and down to the place of destruction. Many are caught in that mass now who are far in sin and are hopelessly lost, yet when they entered the broad gate they probably said to Jesus: "I'm going just a short way down the broad road and see just a few pleasures, then I'm going to follow thee." Poor souls, carried on and down by evil habits and worldly associates and they are far, far from God.

Let's follow Jesus who will take us up the narrow road. As we enter the strait gate we shall have to drop our worldly burdens and sinful actions. He no doubt will take us first to the cross where we shall see Him dying for us. At His feet we shall lay our sins and as we receive Him as Savior, we shall have the happy experience of realizing forgiveness of sin. Then we shall gladly follow Him, leaving



the things of the world behind and entering paths of service and sacrifice gladly to keep our feet in His steps. At the end of the journey we shall look back and see the rugged narrow road, look ahead and see the golden city, then say to ourselves: "After all, the narrow way is the King's highway and it led to God."



CHAPTER XV

The Cross and the Crown

Rev. 2:10 Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

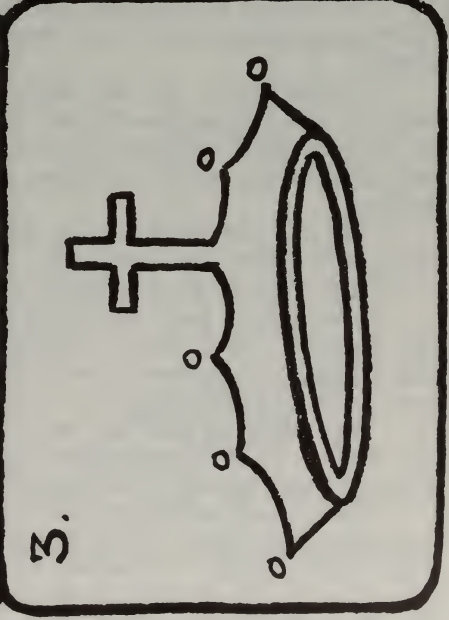
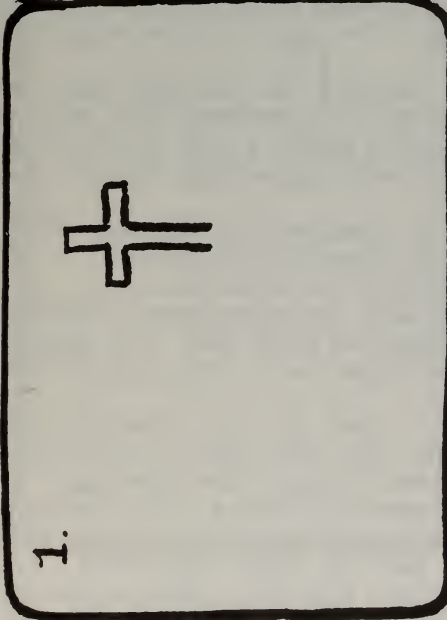
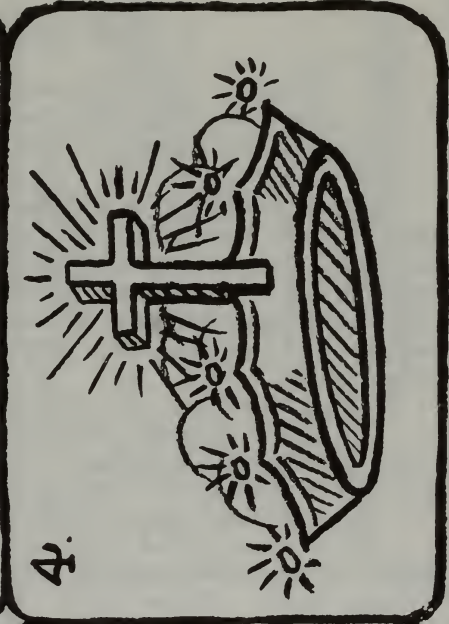
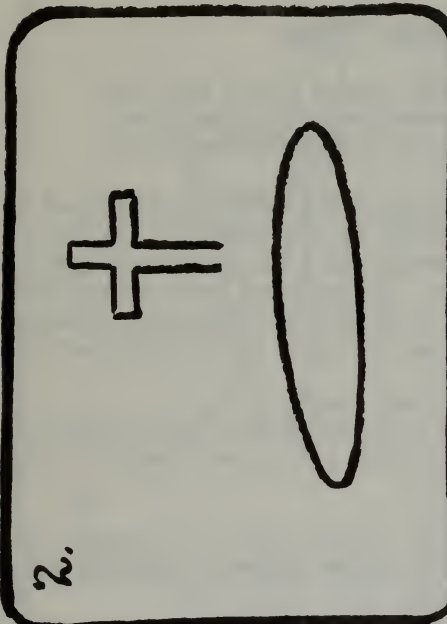
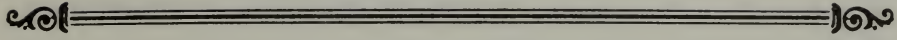
The most beautiful symbol in all the world is the cross. Whenever we see its form we think of Christ, the God-man who lived and died for a lost world.

Yet the cross is a thing from which we naturally shrink. It asks us to sacrifice and bear a burden. Have you ever sung: "There's a cross for everyone and there's a cross for me"? This cross means our Christian responsibility. Mr. Tramp is a type of man who shirks all moral and physical responsibility. He is worthless and a menace to good society. He lays life's cross aside for others to carry and steps out into a carefree, shiftless life. Who wants to be a tramp? Let's take up our spiritual cross and refuse to be a Christian tramp.

Our cross may represent faithfulness in church, diligence in Bible reading and intense earnestness and labor in prayer. It should also mean separation from worldliness and consecration in the Lord's service; teaching Sunday School, seeking to win the lost, giving freely of our earnings, and many other things.

When we take up our cross, it would seem heavy, were it not for the promise that awaits us at the end of the way. A crown of life is ours and we shall gain it at the end of a faithful life. We read that Jesus "who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross and despised the shame." The crown of life is the joy that is set before us, that we may joyfully endure our cross and lovingly overlook any reproach that we may need to bear for Jesus. Paul and Silas, suffering humiliation and physical pain in the dark, filthy dungeon, began to sing as they anticipated the wonderful crown that awaited them. We too would be happier if we kept our eyes off of our crosses and joyfully looked toward our crown.

We cannot fully envision the shape of our crown, but do you not suppose that our cross will be beautifully set in it, transformed to adorn the crown? Don't you think that a crown somewhat like we have drawn would be a most beautiful gift to anticipate, and work for? When we lay our beautiful crowns at Jesus' feet and crown Him Lord of all, it will be most delightful to have a sparkling pearl to represent each soul that we have turned to righteousness and a beautiful cross set therein to show Jesus that we did it all for Him.





CHAPTER XVI

The Barren Tree

Matt. 3:10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees; therefore every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire.

A farmer one spring morning went to his shed and sharpened his axe. With a keen edged tool he made for his orchard. Laying the axe on the ground he removed his coat, rolled his sleeves and glanced with disgust at a large stately tree. Its branches were spread forth holding a gorgeous shower of sweet scented apple blossoms. Grasping his axe he swung and sent its glistening blade with a thud into the tree trunk.

"Ouch!" came a voice ringing with pain.

The farmer looked around with consternation to find no one near. "That's strange," he mused, "who could have cried 'ouch'?" Lifting his axe he delivered another blow.

"Ouch!" cried the voice again.

Mr. Farmer looked around, then mused aloud: "I wonder who spoke?" As he was making ready to strike again the voice shouted: "Please don't! Please don't! Please don't strike me."

Mr. Farmer understood that the tree was speaking and he entered into conversation with these words: "I've come out here to cut you down."

"Please don't cut me down," shouted the pleading voice, "I want to live, I love these balmy breezes, I love to live in your wonderful orchard and overlook your beautiful farm. I love the birds and bees; I love the warm sunshine and refreshing spring showers. Let me live."

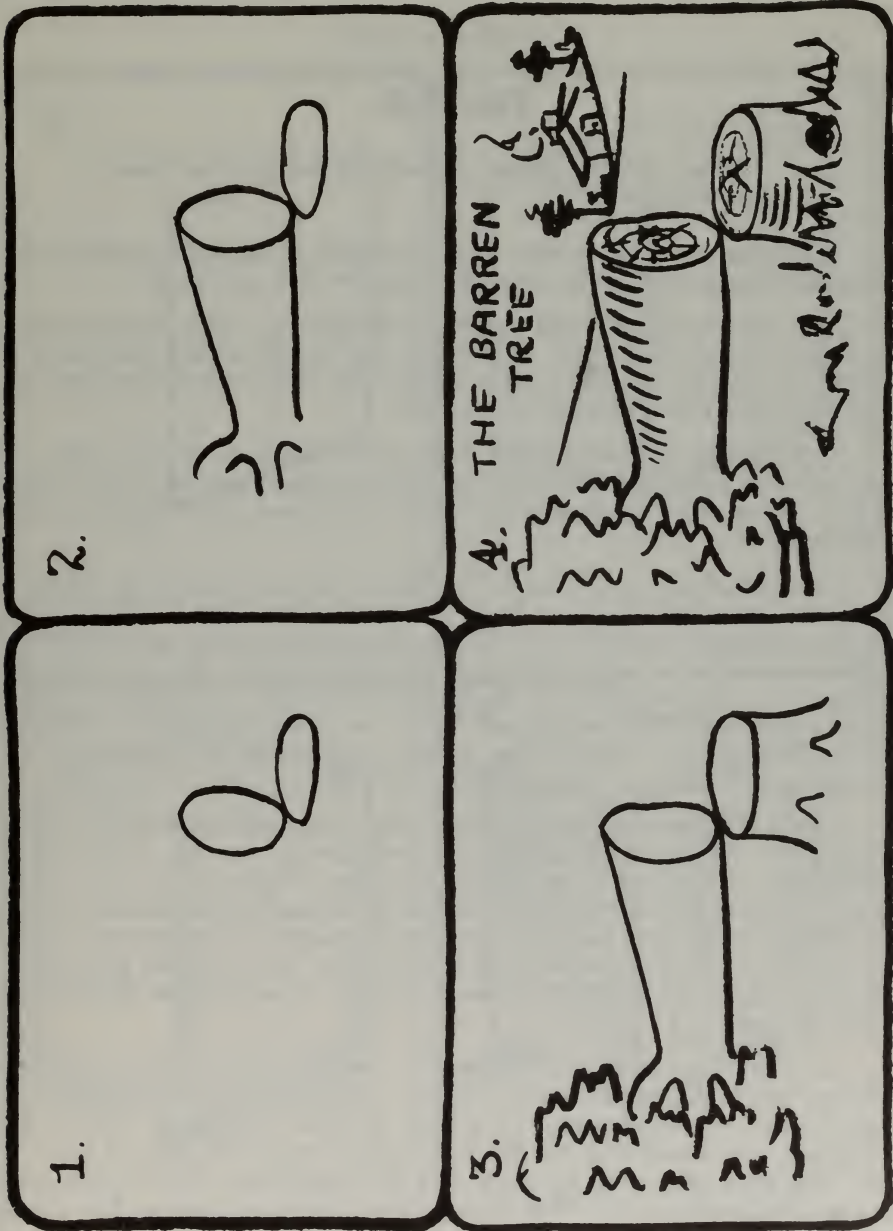
"What right have you to live?" questioned Mr. Farmer. "You have never given me any fruit. I am going to cut you down."

"But look at my beautiful blossoms," cried the tree.

"I've beheld your beautiful blossoms for many years," returned Mr. Farmer, "and you've disappointed me every fall. I've sprayed and trimmed and pruned you and still you bear no fruit except a few gnarled sour apples."

"But be kind and let me live," plead the tree, "I've not done any harm. I never sent the insects into your grain or the cholera among your hogs and chickens. I never did any harm; spare me!"

Bitter disappointment and condemnation flushed in Mr. Farmer's face as he answered: "You've done me no harm, indeed, but you have done me no good. I planted you that you might yield fruit. You have drawn the strength from my farm and have yielded no return. I'm going to cut you down and plant a tree in your place that will yield apples." And in a few minutes the tree lay on the ground to be cut to pieces and burned.



Let us remember that "every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire." We can yield fruit by telling others about Christ with our lives and our lips.



CHAPTER XVII

The Safe

*Prov. 29:25 Whoso putteth his trust in the Lord
shall be safe.*

Who has not seen a safe with its thick walls and strong door? Valuable things should be protected against fire and theft.

The most valuable thing we possess is our soul. It is the only thing that we can call our own. Some day our relatives and friends will claim our earthly goods, mother earth will claim our bodies and we will have but one thing left—our soul.

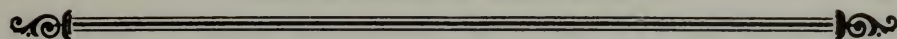
One day the writer visiting a fire saw a burned, twisted safe. It had been in a roaring fire and had fallen several stories to the basement. When opened, though the safe was ruined, the valuables were unharmed.

We should put our trust in the Lord. Let us change the sentence and say "we should put our lives, or souls in the Lord." We do that by surrendering ourselves to Him and accepting Him as our Savior and Lord. Jesus on the cross went through all the fire of judgment against sin. He lost His life as He went through the flames of righteous wrath but when He arose from the grave He showed Himself victor over death. That is why we can commit our souls to Him with the assurance that all will be well at the end of life's journey.

Jesus is like a safe for our souls. He also wants to keep our other valuables. He asks us to lay up our treasures in heaven. We do that by giving to Him and to others in His name. Each moment is a pearl that He wants to keep for us. Our words, thoughts and actions should be given to Him, and too He wants our earnings. Whatever we spend on ourselves and others foolishly will be lost. All that we give to the church and missions and to others in Jesus' name will be waiting for us in heaven.

A wealthy woman went abroad. Before she left, she entrusted her valuables to a trustworthy friend. She left all her valuables with her friend but a diamond ring and a pearl necklace. When she returned she found that all her belongings were safe, but on her trip she had been robbed of the ring and her beads had been broken and several gems were lost. She should have left everything to her trusty friend.

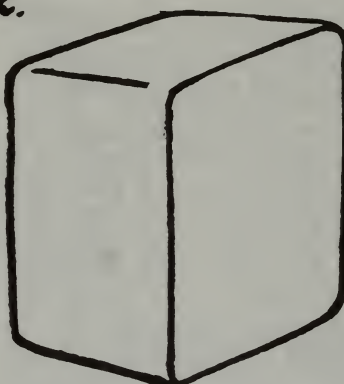
Let us give all to Jesus and all will be waiting for us in heaven.



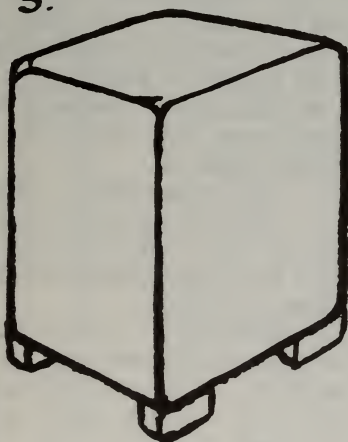
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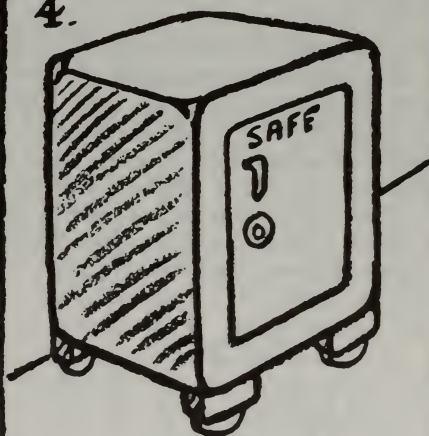
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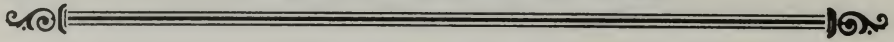
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THE SAFE



CHAPTER XVIII

What to Believe

(To Be Saved)

Acts 16:31 Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.

This is the great apostle's answer to the Philippian jailer; and God's answer to the inquiring human race. We are not told what not to do, nor what else to do. Only believe.

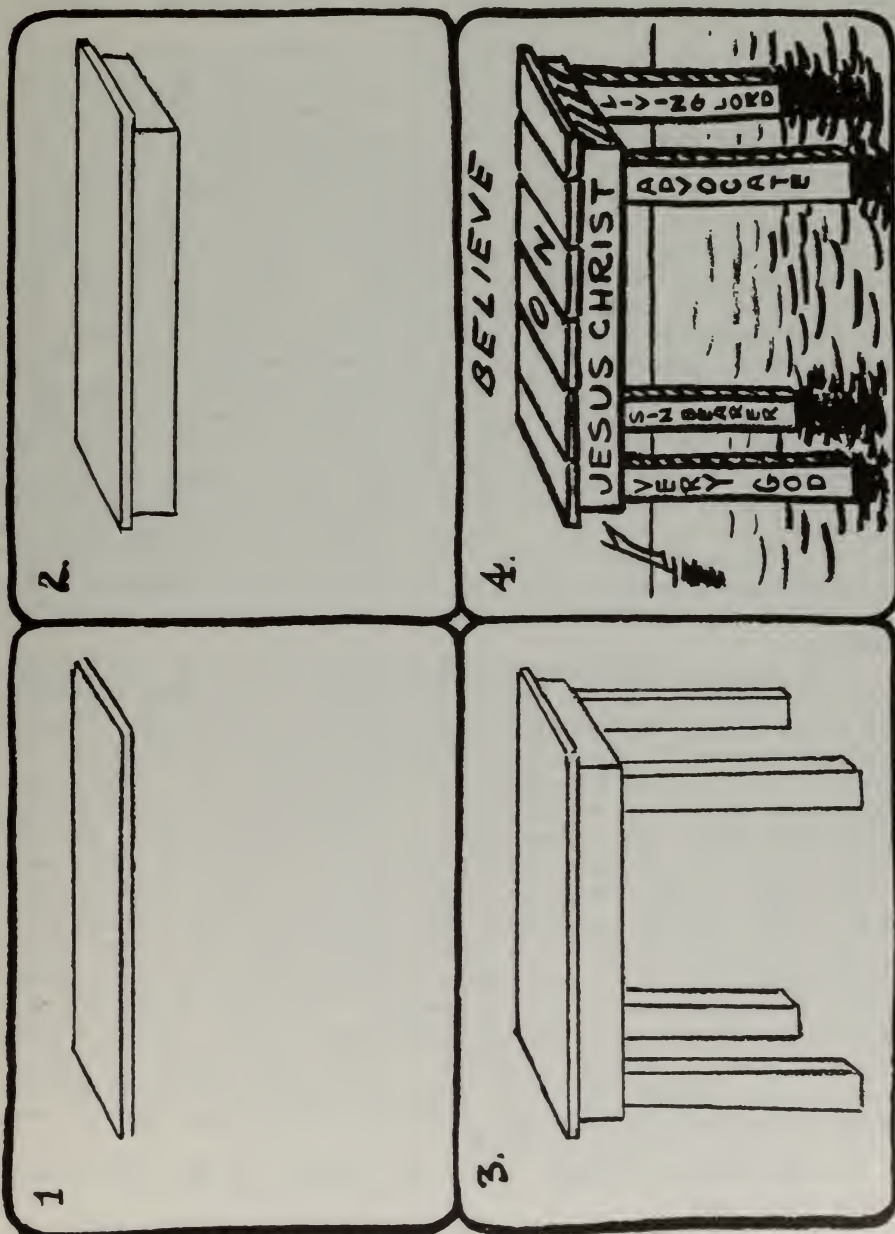
Let's analyze the instructions for salvation. The sentence is in two parts, separated by the conjunction "and." One half represents man's part, the other represents God's part. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ" is our part. When we do our part, God immediately does his part, "thou shalt be saved."

There is only one thing that concerns us—that is: have we done our part? God's part automatically takes place when we have done ours. And our part is to BELIEVE.

We have drawn a table. With a few darker lines we have changed it to a rough table and by adding a few more lines, we set it out in the sea. Suppose now we were all cast from a sinking ship into the sea, and nearby stood this table with its legs fastened firmly into the seabed. Would we be believing on the table if we swam around it shouting: "I believe it can hold me and save me." Or if to strengthen our faith we should dive to the bottom and inspect the way it is anchored, would we thereby be believing on it? Surely we should not be believing until we have climbed upon it and let it do the saving. Then, as we stand or sit upon the table, we would be putting all of our trust upon it, realizing that if it falls, we fall, and if it stands, we stand. We know, to be sure, that Christ can never fail. Now we are believing on it for we are depending entirely upon it.

This table that saves us has four legs. Let's name them. First, we must believe on Christ as VERY GOD. (Place lettering on leg.) Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, born of a virgin, that He might be the God-man? That God in human flesh actually lived among men? That fact is the first thing to believe.

On the next leg let's put the name SIN-BEARER. "All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned each one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on Jesus, our sins." Isa. 53:6. "His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree." 1 Peter 2:24. When Jesus hung on the cross, he cried aloud: "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me!" God turned his face because he could not behold his Son with our sins upon him. John the Baptist pointed to Jesus and said: "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world." Now, on the cross, Jesus is seen, bearing away the sins of the world. Christ's death was the result of God's righteous judgment for sin being met in his own body. The sins of the world placed upon us a debt greater than we can pay. Jesus' blood, flowing from Calvary,



paid the debt in full and when we look to Christ and believe on Him as sin bearer we are set free. Isn't that a wonderful fact? Do you believe that Jesus is your sin bearer?

This third leg, we'll call **ADVOCATE**. That means lawyer. Jesus is our lawyer. We read in 1 John 2:1, "If any man sin, we have a 'Lawyer'—Jesus Christ the righteous." We are all guilty before God. Not only guilty, but caught. No one escapes God's eye. And we are not only caught, but convicted, and like a prisoner behind prison bars, we are bound by our sins and are awaiting the judgment. What an awful hopeless future. We cannot plead our own case without pleading guilty. Our father or mother or friends or even our pastor cannot help us out at the judgment we must face. And we know that the penalty for sin is death—eternal punishment away from God. All who have accepted Christ as advocate or lawyer will find Christ by their side when they face their God, and He will plead for them. What do you suppose He will plead? He will not plead that we are innocent, or pure, or weak. He will not plead God's mercy or goodness or favor. He will agree with God that we are guilty and that we are worthy of punishment. Then we shall blush for gratitude and shout for joy as He raises His hands, and shows the wounds in His feet, side and thorn-scarred brow. He will say: "Father, I bore his sin in my body; I shed my blood and died for him." He accepted me and stood for me and served me in earth, now I'll stand for him at the judgment." If you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, you will have a wonderful Lawyer.

This last leg we shall name **LIVING LORD**. If Christ were a dead Lord you might do well to **have** Him. But He arose from the dead and is now living. Instead of you having Him, you should say: "Lord, you shall have me." He is your Lord and my Lord to love, know and serve. He is ours to fellowship with (in prayer) and witness for, introducing Him to all whom we meet. During slavery days a young man who had been very ill-treated was sold to a new master. He had decided that he would take the life of whoever bought him. His new master spoke kindly to him and when taking him home from the auction revealed that he bought him that he might set him free and that he was going right home to have the papers made out. The negro flushed and stopped his new master, pulled from his pocket a long sharp knife and threw it on the ground. With tears in his eyes he flung himself at the man's feet and cried these words: "Massa, I love you, please may I be your servant? I'll work for you all my life." Surely when we find that we are free, we shall fall gratefully before our new Lord and give Him our whole lives for service. Thereby we believe on Him as our living Lord.

If you haven't already, won't you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ right now?

Note: This table, as No. 1, 2, 3 may be drawn with light lines before the meeting if desired.

1. The first of these is the question of the origin of the human race. It is a question which has been discussed for many years, and which has given rise to many different theories. The most common of these is the theory of evolution, which holds that the human race has evolved from a common ancestor. Other theories include the theory of polygenism, which holds that the human race has evolved from many different ancestors, and the theory of monogenism, which holds that the human race has evolved from a single ancestor.	2. The second of these is the question of the development of the human mind. It is a question which has also been discussed for many years, and which has given rise to many different theories. The most common of these is the theory of the development of the mind from a state of unconsciousness to a state of consciousness. Other theories include the theory of the development of the mind from a state of unconsciousness to a state of unconsciousness, and the theory of the development of the mind from a state of unconsciousness to a state of unconsciousness.
3. The third of these is the question of the development of the human body. It is a question which has also been discussed for many years, and which has given rise to many different theories. The most common of these is the theory of the development of the body from a state of unconsciousness to a state of consciousness. Other theories include the theory of the development of the body from a state of unconsciousness to a state of unconsciousness, and the theory of the development of the body from a state of unconsciousness to a state of unconsciousness.	4. The fourth of these is the question of the development of the human soul. It is a question which has also been discussed for many years, and which has given rise to many different theories. The most common of these is the theory of the development of the soul from a state of unconsciousness to a state of consciousness. Other theories include the theory of the development of the soul from a state of unconsciousness to a state of unconsciousness, and the theory of the development of the soul from a state of unconsciousness to a state of unconsciousness.



CHAPTER XIX

Character Building

Luke 24:28,29 For which of you intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first and counteth the cost whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply after he hath laid the foundation and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him.

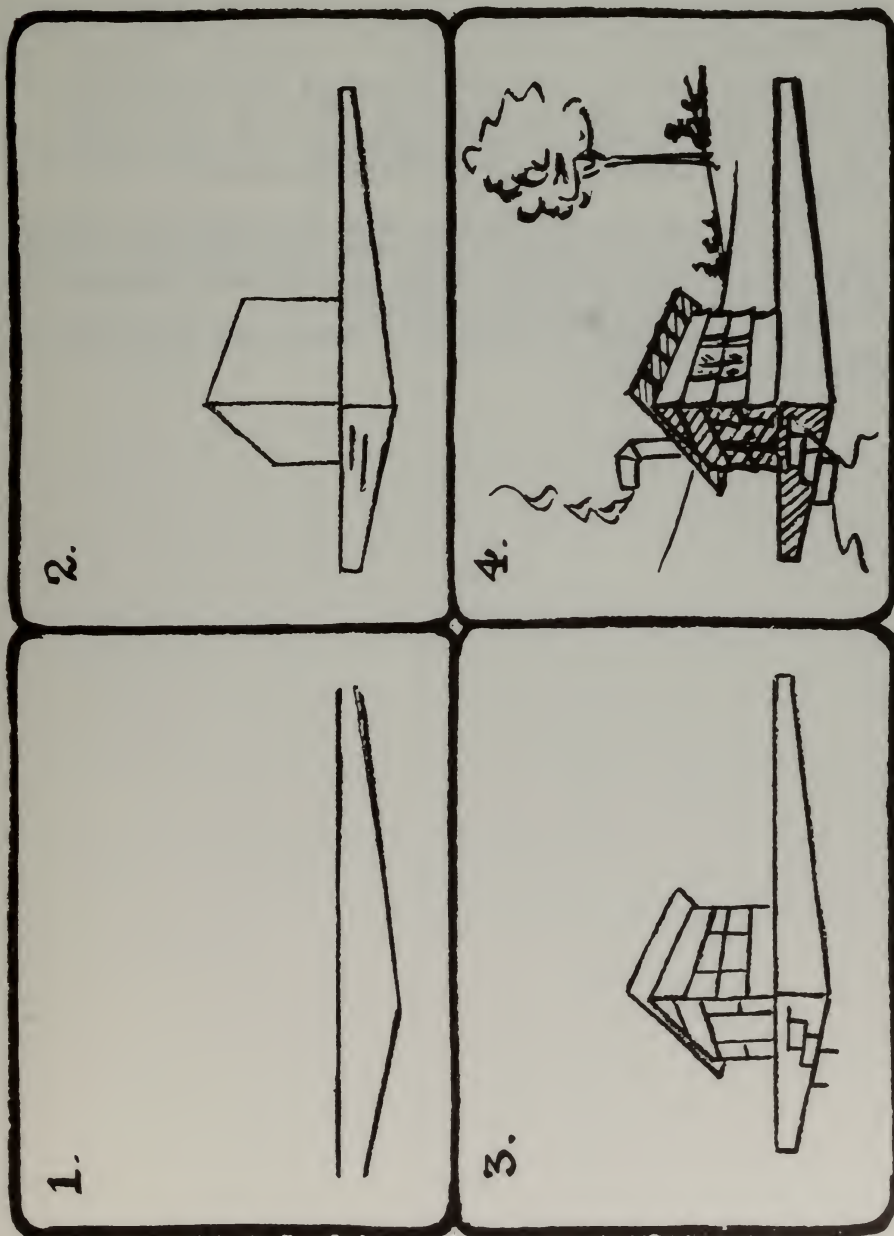
Jesus gives us two parables that concern character building. One is of a man who built a fine house on a foundation of sand, the other of a man who built an ignoble house on a fine foundation. Both of these men were branded as failures.

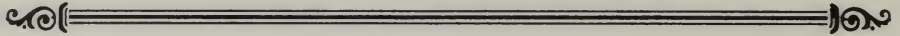
Paul tells us in 1 Cor. 3:11 that Jesus is the great foundation. One who builds a fine superstructure on a faulty foundation will sooner or later mourn his folly. The man who builds a moral self-righteous character without Christ to "keep him from falling" will some day totter and fall. His ultimate failure will bring him to keen disappointment from within and sad derision from without. The winds of temptation and the waves of sorrow and testing will be too great for him some day. The wise builder is sure of his foundation before he attempts the superstructure. Some foundations are known to have cost more than the buildings on them, for with lofty structures to support, the foundations must reach to bed rock. So let us accept Christ as our Savior and upon Him build our Christian character.

A cartoonist several years ago drew a picture that the author will never forget. It was similar to the picture I have drawn for you. Now you mustn't laugh at this ridiculous house, you have often seen shacks that are no better and you haven't laughed at them. Oh, you are amused at the contrast. Well, it is ridiculous, indeed. The builder of the shack started a fine building and put in a very fine foundation. Neighbors and friends commended him in making broad and deep the foundation for his residence. But by the time he had paid the men for digging the cellar and laying the brick, he found he had just enough left to pay for the cement and brick. He determined that he would have a home, so gathering together the boards from the concrete forms, he made four walls and a roof on one corner of the foundation and proceeded to move in. The following winter he cut a hole in the roof and stuck out an old piece of stove pipe and in his warm little hut settled down to finish his days.

A quaint character the neighbors agreed. An unwise builder said his friends, and thus he spent his life in derision.

This is also the picture of the Christian who has accepted Christ as his Savior but never realized what it would cost to build a great Christian character. He thought that his surrender at the altar was the end rather than the beginning. Christ is our foundation and we receive that free as a gift of God. But what we build thereon will cost us greatly if we build a lofty character. The man who built this house might have spent his time and money on other things foolishly.

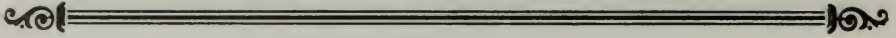




To build a worthy character that will not reproach our foundation, we must get down to business and invest all into our building project and sacrifice worthless and destructive pleasures for our higher endeavor. The Christian here illustrated thought it worthless to pray and read God's Word. His attitude toward the church and Sunday School and young people's meeting was sluggardly. He never put Christian service into his program and when called upon for some activity he refused any responsibility. His life became a reproach to himself and to his Lord.

Christ is only seen by the unsaved as they behold our Christian lives. By some, He is portrayed as a weak, ridiculous Lord; by others as a mighty and worthy Christ. What do others think of Jesus Christ as they behold your Christian character?

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CHAPTER XX

The Airplane

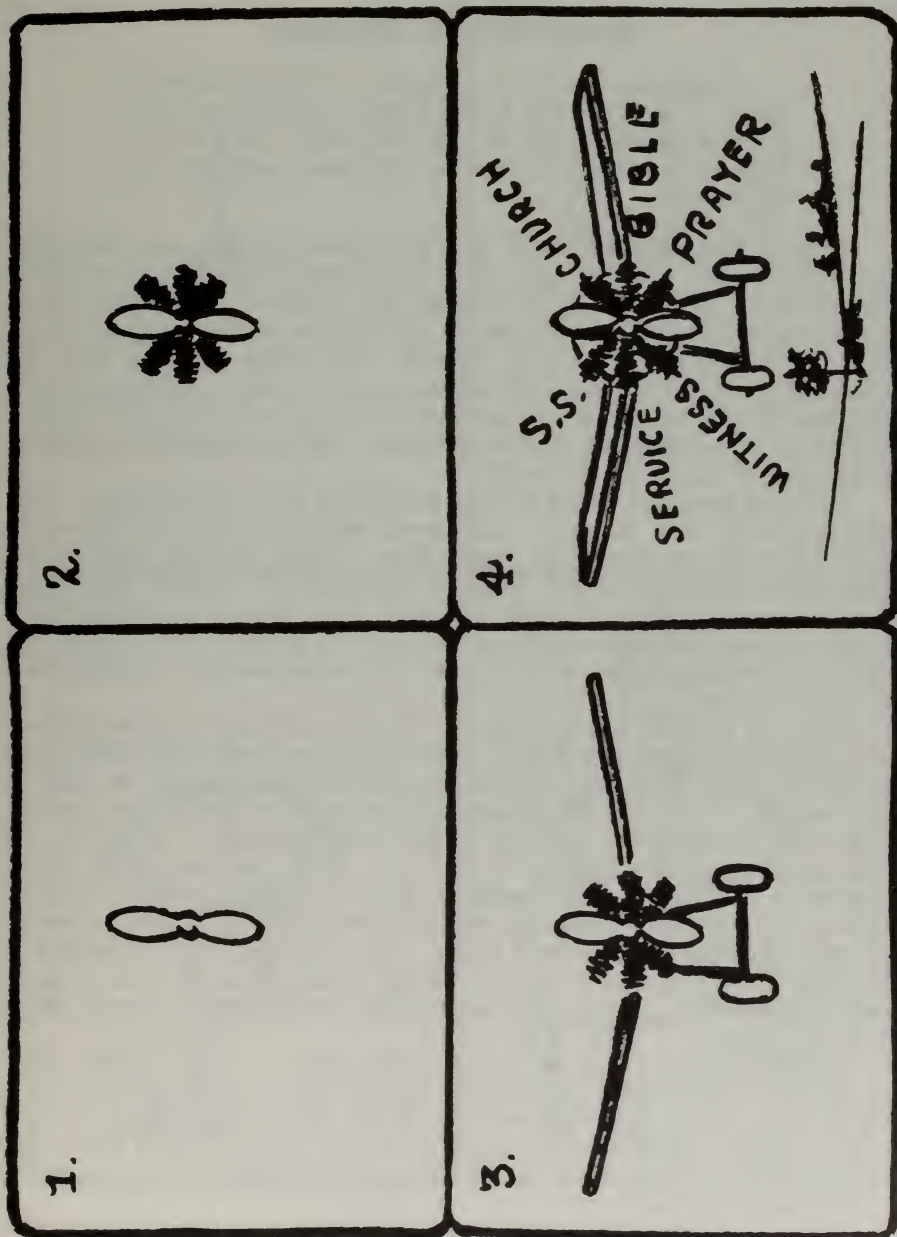
Jas. 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Let's take our lesson from the airplane. This machine will only fly when it attains momentum. The motor whirls the propellor and produces traction or pulling power. When enough speed is acquired, the plane can leave the ground and soar to great altitudes and travel at tremendous speed. When the motor stops, the plane cannot fly without losing altitude.

So it is with life. We must have power to pull us or we shall never rise and get anywhere. In the spiritual realm of life we have a motor to pull us which, as we see, has six cylinders. Maximum, or full power can only be attained when all cylinders are "hitting." One cylinder cannot say to the others: "I don't need you," or "You don't need me." When one refuses to function, all the others must sacrifice their power to pull the dead one; the motor becomes weak and the plane loses altitude and sometimes in making a forced landing, becomes wrecked. A strong, healthy, successful Christian life is assured for the person who keeps all of these cylinders working.

When we stop praying, we lose our power. When we pray occasionally like a missing, popping, spitting cylinder, we likewise become powerless.

Let's read our Bibles daily, pray regularly, always be in our place in Sunday School and church and serve and witness for Christ every opportunity. Then we shall be strong and successful as we rise to new heights of Christian experience and service.





CHAPTER XXI

Your Worst Enemy

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

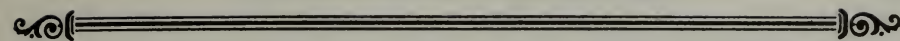
Who is your worst enemy? Not the fellow who hit you and blackened your eye. Not the girl who made that unkind remark about you one day. You may say that Satan is the fellow. To be sure Satan is our avowed enemy and he spends all his time trying to destroy our lives. But who has ever seen Satan? He cannot be seen with the human eye. He is a spirit and has an army of other evil accomplices assisting him in his work of destruction. They are the little imps of darkness and nobody has ever seen them. We only see their activities in the hearts and lives of people.

There is someone whom we can see who is our worst enemy. That person is here with us now. Our worst enemy is right in this room. Would one of you boys like to see him. (Thus far the speaker has drawn the neck, shoulders, trunk, limbs, etc.) Here is his body. You'll know him when you see his head. You will see a familiar face. While I place the head on the shoulders, I'm going to ask one of the boys to come and tell me who I think is his worst enemy. (Hang small mirror in place.)

Yes, we are our worst enemies. We try to blame our naughtiness on others and oftentimes on Satan. Let's be honest and admit that when we say the bad word, lose our temper, disobey our parents, or yield to any temptation, we are humoring and obeying our own selfish desires. There are weaknesses and bad desires that spring up in all of our lives and demand our submission to them. Each time we submit we let our lower self become our master. Many lives have been wrecked because they let their stomachs rule their whole beings. Others because they let their tempers control them. Our tempers are only useful to us when they are under control. Many other baser desires of body and mind have gripped and controlled people and dragged them down to ruin.

Moffatt's translation of 1 Cor. 9:27 reads: "I maul and master my body." If we don't master our bodies, they will master us. Paul let his body know who was ruler. Yet he did not overcome himself without help. The secret of victory in Paul's life is found in Gal. 2:20. He says: "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me."

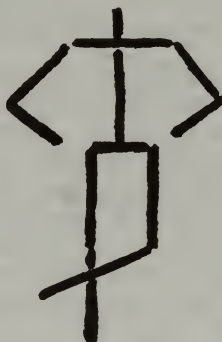
When we give ourselves to Christ, we are crucified with Him. We are told to "present our bodies a living sacrifice" to the Lord. He will control us and overcome our selfish desires as we surrender completely to Him. As we commit our bodies and lives unreservedly



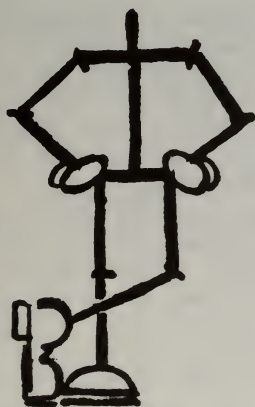
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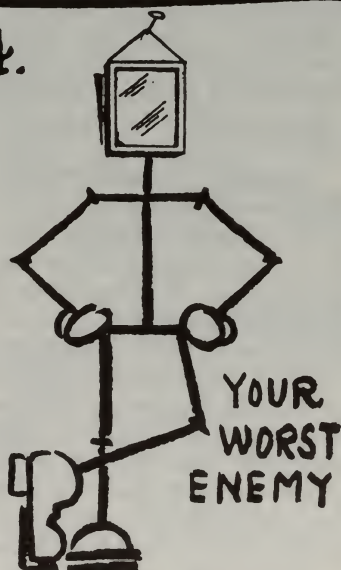
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to the Master, we shall find ourselves loving Him with all our beings and utterly despising our lower selves and from our fellowship with Him will bloom forth a strong, clean, Christlike character.



CHAPTER XXII

The Love Gate

I John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

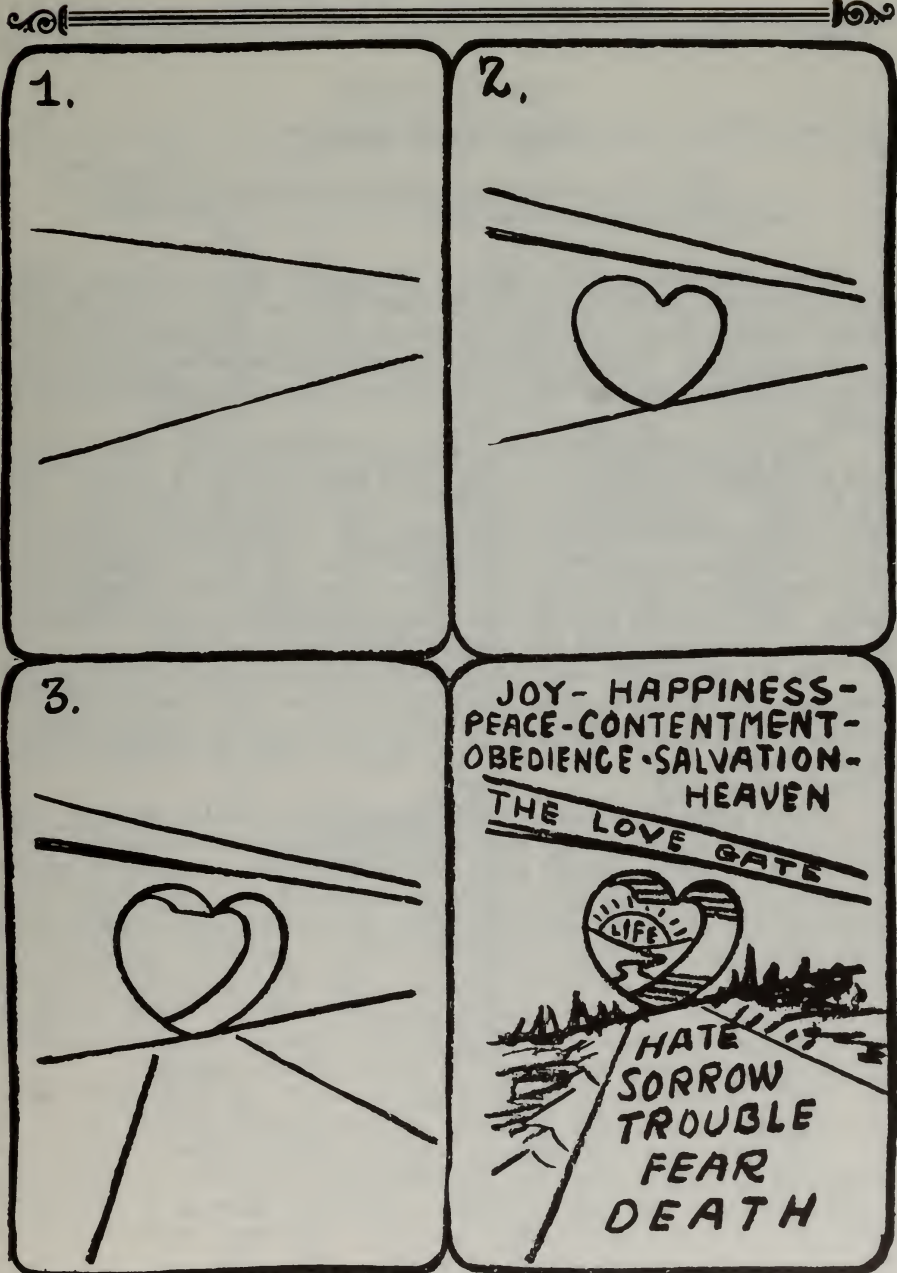
There is a great wall that separates us from joy and hate. From happiness and sorrow; from peace and contentment; and trouble and fear; from obedience, salvation and heaven, and death. Eternal life stares us in the face as we approach the wall, because the love gate is open and we can see the wonderful things of a new world. But alas, many, rather than pass through the love gate choose to remain in the world of sin. The wonder of the ages is that so few have left the old life and passed into the new.

Why are many so unhappy and filled with greed, envy, jealousy and hate? They have never learned to love. Many people I know will not forgive those who have wronged them. I even heard of a young man who never forgave his father. Those people have never passed through the love gate. Many with aching hearts are in sorrow even now because they have never learned to love. They seem to always be in trouble and the whole world seems to them to be turned inside out. They fear everything and suspect everyone. They too have a lesson to learn. Many people fear death because they realize that death is going to usher them into a hopeless eternity. Poor souls, if they would only pass through the love gate, they would be in a different world.

I know some other people who have lots of trouble and adversity but seem to always be happy. They have been ill-treated and yet hold no ill-feeling in their hearts and in their sorrows they see a hopeful rift in the clouds. They have a host of friends and life is sweet to them and to all who come in touch with them. They look into the future with a song of hope and even eternity beckons to them with open arms. They are living in a different world.

Why are some homes unhappy? Parents scold, children disobey and constantly fear. Children fight and say bad things to each other. Somebody hasn't passed through the love gate. Why do some children constantly find themselves tempted to lie, steal, swear and do other wrong things? Have you ever heard someone say: "I hate you"? How about the girl who is too proud to associate with a poorer school-mate? Looks as if these people are on this side of the love gate.

Let's look at Stephen who forgave the men who stoned him. Here's Paul who gave his life for the gospel and submitted to many embarrassing and painful ordeals for his Master; and who was obedient to the heavenly vision. He sang within the prison dungeon and said he counted it a joy to suffer for Christ. These men have passed through the gate. You know people today who are different from the world and you know why.



Jesus, the greatest lover in all the world, is the love gate! He says: "I am the door." All who surrender to Him and take Him as Savior can say they have passed through the wonderful love gate into the new world of love, joy, happiness, peace, contentment, obedience and salvation—and eternal life.

CHAPTER XXIII

Cain and Abel

Heb. 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain.

These two young men sought to please God with offerings. Cain, the elder was a hard-working fellow and built an altar, carefully laid of his choicest fruits and vegetables upon it and called for the favor of the true God. There was evidence here that he was sincere. No doubt, he looked for a token of favor from heaven because of his sincerity.

Abel, the younger brother, was a hardworking lad. His brother was a successful gardener and he was a successful stock raiser. Like his brother, he worshipped the true God and sought His favor. He laid a slain, spotless lamb on his altar, for he wanted to give of his best. It was no beautiful, pleasing offering like Cain's. and possibly Cain looked at it with contempt as he viewed his own offering with pride. Yet Abel, by faith, believed that his offering would please his God, and looked toward heaven for God's token of favor.

We all know the story, how God accepted Abel's offering and consumed it with fire—thus revealing that the true offering must be from the flock and not from the ground which had been cursed because of sin. (Gen. 3:17.) All offerings were to point to Christ, the true slain Lamb of God.

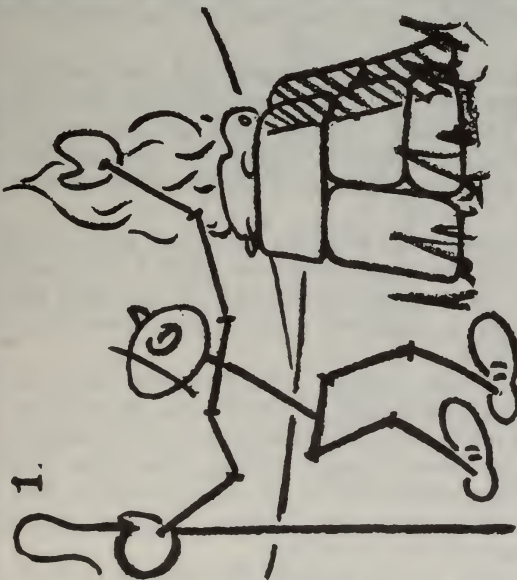
Cain's great sin was not in offering the fruit of the ground. God said to Cain: "Now, I have shown that Abel's sacrifice is the true one, if you offer a similar one, I shall accept it." Abel would have gladly given or traded a lamb to his brother, but Cain became infuriated with jealousy and envy and refused to offer the real sacrifice. That's why God said: "If you do not well (offer the true sacrifice) sin lies at the door." And surely sin lay at his door. His envy and jealousy turned to bitter hatred and revenge. Poor Abel, slain by his disobedient, rebellious brother became the first martyr to faith. Poor Cain, because of his sin was cursed and lived his days in shame and fear.

Many today are substituting good works and self-righteousness for repentance and faith in Christ and are cursed as Cain was.

Learn the lesson that Cain refused to learn. Accept Christ, the Lamb of God, slain from the foundation of the world, as your own personal Savior and you shall know that your offering is acceptable. God proved that Christ's offering in our place was satisfactory with the token of the wonderful resurrection.

Note: This is a folding picture. Draw on the left side of your paper just as far as you see the shaded lines in the right side of the author's picture. Fold in center (vertically) and impress the left side picture on to the right side. Open and pin the paper back as before and finish both sides with your crayon.

1.



ABEL

LAMB
(CHRIST)
the lamb
of God

ACCEPTED

2.



FRUIT
of the ground
(GOOD WORKS)

REJECTED

CHAPTER XXIV

Repentance

1 Thess. 1:9 Ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.

Paul the great evangelist shouted to his audience on Mars Hill and said: "God once winked at your ignorance but now He commandeth all men everywhere to repent."

Different ideas are expressed as to the meaning of true repentance. Some say that sorrow for sin or praying loud prayers may be repentance. Others have said that turning from sin is real repentance. The picture we have drawn is a good illustration of true repentance. Our lesson verse found in 1 Thessalonians 1:9 explains what we mean. The people of Thessalonica turned from something to something. They turned from idols to the living God. Turning from, is one half, and turning to, is the other.

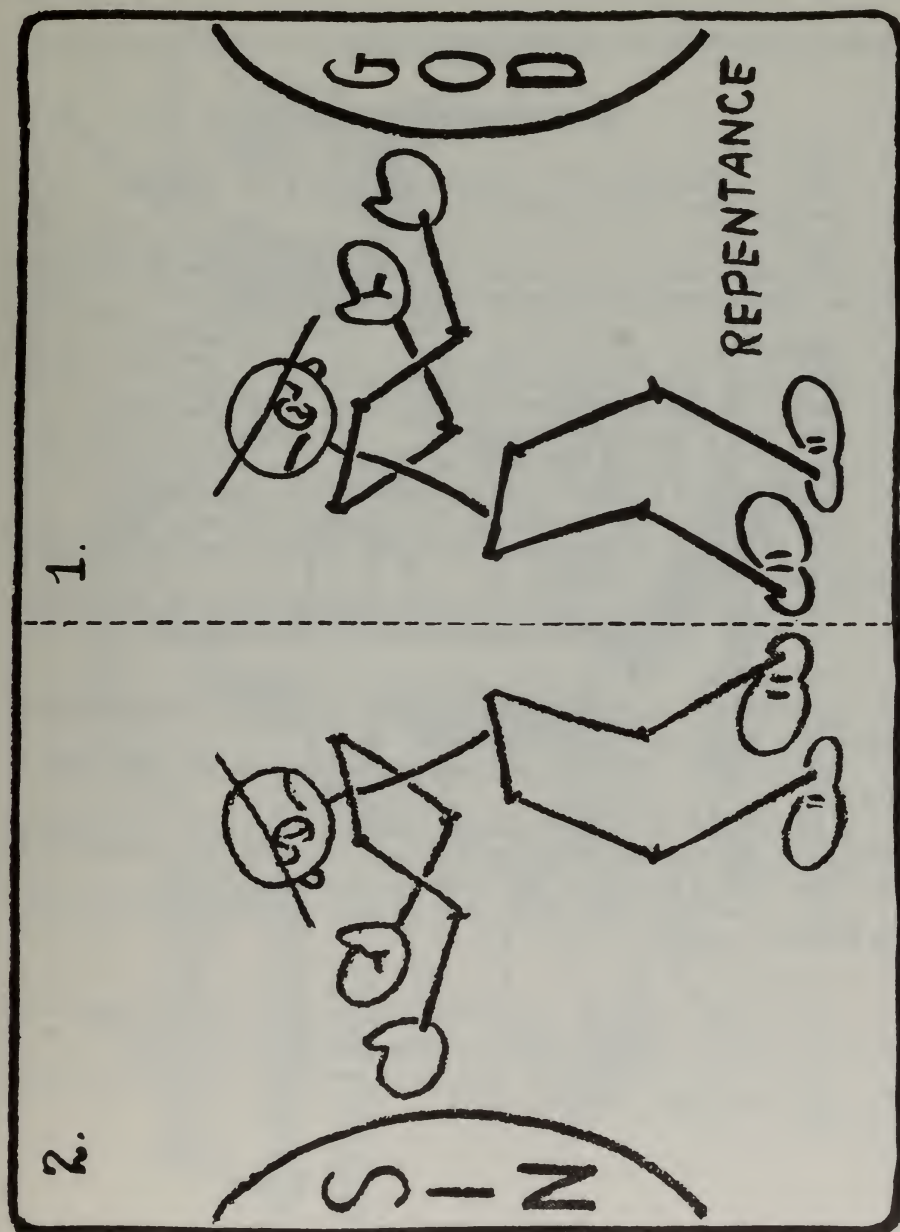
We don't worship idols today like the Thessalonians. Their idols were of wood and stone. They had mythical Gods, too, and along with their worship was great superstition. They did this in pagan ignorance. Our idols consist of all things that we place between us and God. They may be money, pleasure, pride, secret sins, worldly applause and a thousand other things that would take our eyes away from God. We must turn from the worship and love of these things. Then we have half way repented. This man we see has turned from sin to God.

As we turn from sin, we pray for forgiveness and receive it immediately as God promises that "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins." As we turn to God we accept Christ as our Savior and we immediately become the sons of God, as He says that "as many as received Him, to them gave He the power to become the sons of God."

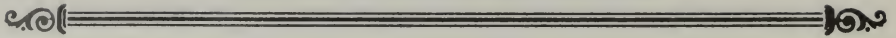
Have you known of anyone who went to the altar and prayed—then went right back and did the same sins over again? He halfway repented. When we receive Jesus into our lives as our personal Savior—giving ourselves completely to Him, we receive the power to overcome and our lives are changed.

If you haven't seen a change in your life since you went to the altar to be converted, you have the right to doubt the genuineness of your repentance. If you haven't a fruitful life since you repented, you might well have doubt, as the Thessalonians turned from idols to serve the true God. Furthermore, we can only make others believe that we are converted as our lives show signs of service, love and fruit for Jesus, to whom we have turned for salvation.

God cried with a pathetic voice through His prophet when He said: "As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die?"



Note: This is a folding picture. Draw the right side as far as you see the shaded lines in left side of the author's picture. Fold over and impress the picture on to the left side; then unfold, pin back the paper and finish the pictures with the crayon.



CHAPTER XXV

A Great Salvation

Titus 2:11 *For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.*

This chalk-talk is a beautiful outline or skeleton for the reader to fill in. These scripture passages may be helpful:

Promised:

Gen. 3:15 The first promise of salvation.

Gen. 4:4 The lamb—first type of Christ crucified.

Gen. 22:7 Where is the lamb?

John 1:29 Behold the Lamb of God.

Exodus 12:13 When I see the blood I will passover you.

Num. 21:9. When he beheld the serpent of brass he lived.

Isa. 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray—the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Isa. 45:22 Look unto me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.

Isa. 53:5 He was wounded for our transgressions etc.

Purchased:

Luke 23:33 And when they were come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him.

I Peter 2:24 Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree.

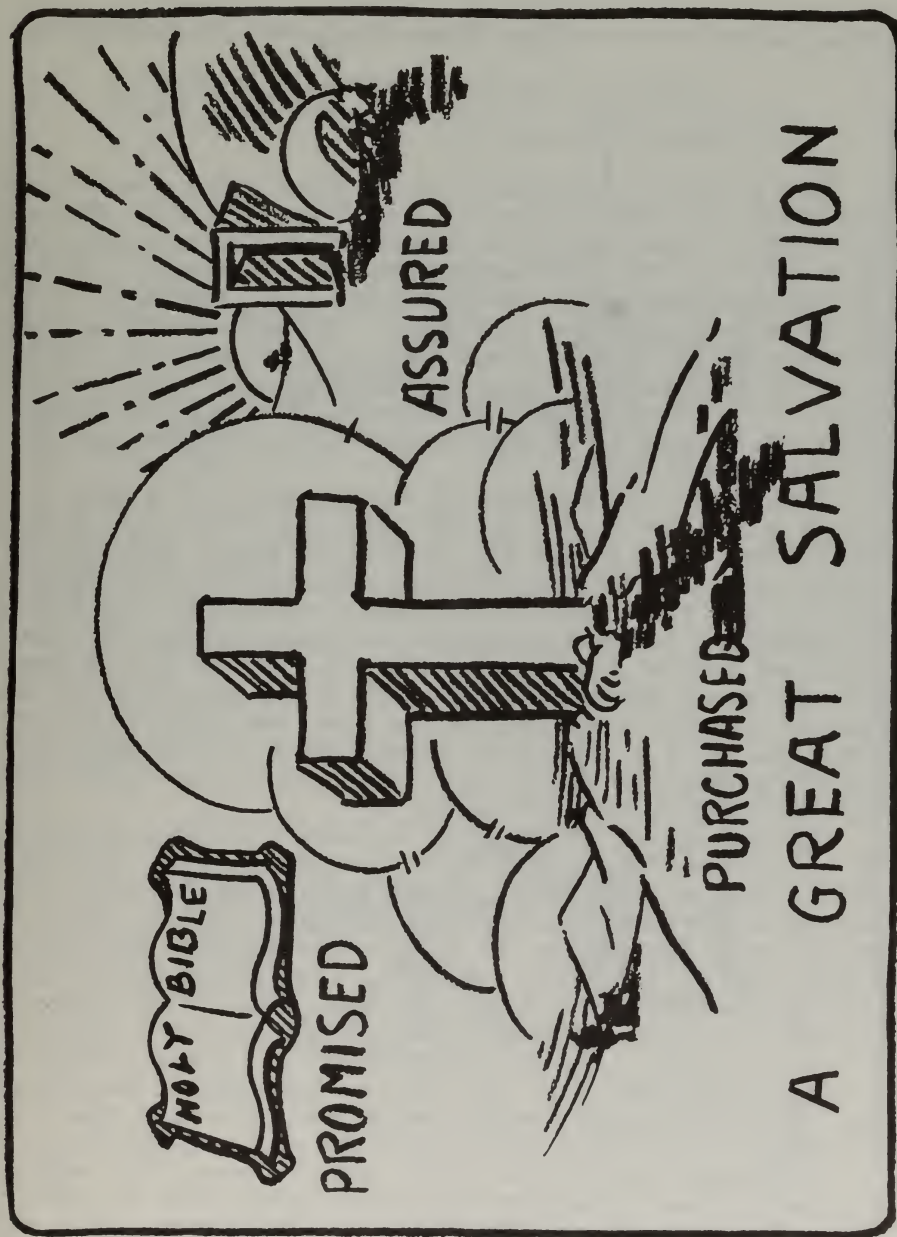
I Peter 1:18, 19 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold—but with the precious blood of Christ as of a Lamb without blemish and without spot.

Rev. 1:5 Unto Him that loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood.

Assured:

Mark 16:6 Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: *He is risen*; He is not here, behold the place where they laid him.

Acts 17:31 Whereof He hath given assurance unto all men that He hath raised Him from the dead.



CHAPTER XXVI

The New Boy

I Cor. 5:17 *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

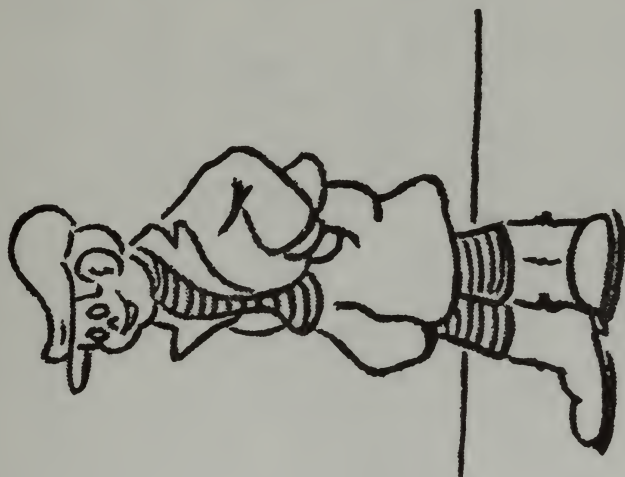
Here we have two pictures of the same boy. The one with shaded lines shows him before he became a Christian. The dark picture is of him after he gave his heart to the Lord. They look very much alike, don't they? In fact, there is no difference whatsoever in outward appearance. Same clothes, same features and all. But there is a difference somewhere. A great difference. They are not alike anymore. Where do you say that the change is seen? Yes, in the heart. We read in the old testament: "My son, give me thine heart." And in another place: "I will take your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." (Prov. 23:26 vs. Ezek. 36:26.) People who are stubborn and sinful have hard hearts like stone.

When Moses was beholding the burning bush, God's voice spoke plainly to him. In the conversation Moses asked for a sign of proof that the Lord would go with him to deliver his people. The Lord said: "Moses, put your hand into your bosom." He placed his hand under his garments next to his heart. At the Lord's command he drew it forth and behold it was white with the terrible disease of leprosy. Moses was frightened until he was commanded to place it back into his bosom with the result that when he withdrew it the second time, it was restored to health. A wonderfully true lesson was taught in this demonstration. Here is the lesson: Leprous heart, leprous hand; clean heart, clean hand. Leprosy is a type of sin, so let us say—sinful heart, sinful hand; clean heart, clean hand.

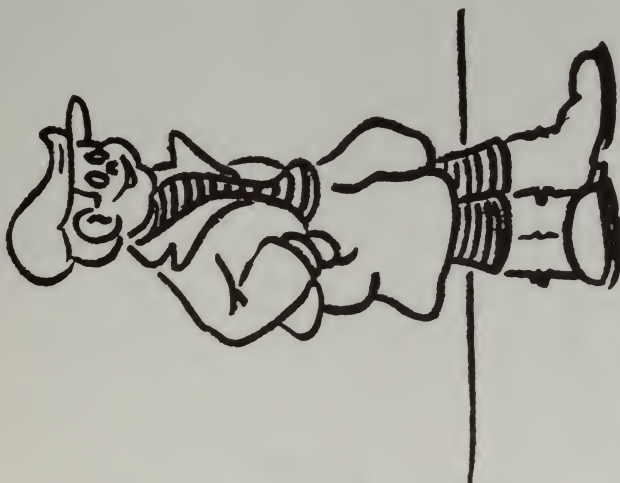
The boy to your left has given his heart to God and it is clean. No one has ever seen the heart, of which we are speaking. It is a deep seated source of impulses, and from it come all of our desires. This boy has the same body and clothes and we cannot see the heart; now where are we going to see the difference between the boy that was (right), and the boy that now is (left)? Yes, we will see the difference in his actions. He will act differently. Who do you think will be the first to notice the change? Yes, he should be first to notice that his desire to disobey and probably to lie and say naughty words and steal, is leaving him. Who next would see the change? Yes, his parents. If his parents can't see the change, there probably is none. Then his playmates and friends should notice that he is a different boy.

An ungodly man in one of the author's evangelistic meetings inquired to know why his two boys acted so differently. He said that they did their chores when the time came without being asked; they didn't swear back at him anymore and they seemed to enjoy reading their Bibles and praying. It was a happy blessing to inform him that they had given their hearts to Jesus in the meetings.

The author was disappointed in calling on the mother of a boy



2.



1.

THE NEW BOY

who had come forward in a meeting. She didn't want him to join church. Not because he was too young or because she didn't believe in children joining church, but she had to admit with disappointment that she had seen no change in Frederick's life. He still disobeyed and lied and was even caught swearing after he claimed to have been converted. She let his brother join the church but refused to allow Frederick to do so. Do you blame her?

Now let us all check up and see if we really have been converted. If we have truly been changed, we'll love Jesus with all our hearts and hate sin equally as much.

Note: This is a folding picture. Draw the left side, then fold over and impress the picture on the right side.



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